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Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, OCTOBER 16-18, 2015 High 7°C/Low -2°C Sun and clouds

Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club owner John Scoles stands in front of the Main Street blues bar Thursday.
SHANE GIBSON/METRO

HIGH AND DRY

metroNEWS

Fortune Block owner asks city to go ahead with plans that would flatten famed music venue

Poilievre bills $15,300 for photo ops

INVESTIGATION

Employment minister used tax dollars to plug child care benefit

Employment Minister Pierre Poilievre expensed $2,200 for a trip to Winnipeg where he held a photo op to watch government cheques for families coming off the presses.

Expense records obtained by Torstar News Service show Poilievre billed the public for approximately $15,300 for travel while searching for families not signed up for enhanced child-care benefits between mid-April and the end of June.

Poilievre said his travels were important to meet Canadians on their own turf after being appointed minister of Employment and Social Development, and his office said he conducted other business on these trips.

"It was important for me as a new minister of the largest department in government … to be available for Canadians to share with me their views in how we can best serve them," said Poilievre, in an interview with Torstar.

"And we were able to sign up thousands of parents for the Universal Child Care Benefit."

Poilievre held a series of photo ops and news conferences in five provinces and one territory between April 15 and June 30, the last day expense records were available in an access to information request.

The $15,300 includes only trips where Poilievre held an event to promote the UCCB. Other costs, such as political staff travel or bureaucratic support, were not included.

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The General Cemetery of Santiago makes endangered site list. **World**

POLLING STATION

Red in flag mistaken for partisan support

A Canadian flag was removed from a Manitoba advance polling station on the weekend because a worker felt it violated election rules.

Elections Canada said a worker in Virden, near the Saskatchewan border, thought the red in the Canadian flag could be interpreted as support for the Liberal party. Spokeswoman Marie-France Kenny said the Elections Canada returning officer was contacted by a local worker who wanted clarification of the rules.

"One employee did ask that we remove some flags because they were red, which has absolutely nothing to do with partisanship," she said Thursday.

"It was all a misunderstanding."

One of the two flags was removed for a period of time, but ultimately raised again, Kenny said. "As long as nothing is advocating for or against a candidate, there is no reason to remove them from the poll."

The worker had undergone Elections Canada training, which explains the rules that prohibit campaign literature or active campaigning near a polling station, Kenny said.

"The rules are clear — you're not supposed to go in a polling station wearing a T-shirt advocating for a candidate or a party.

"You're not supposed to advertise at a polling station.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WILDLIFE

Eastern region has most deer collisions

Oh deer! Eastern Manitoba is the worst portion of the province for vehicle collisions with deer.

The Eastman region, which includes Steinbach, Lac du Bonnet, Anola, Birds Hill Park area and Falcon Lake, sees 1,600 deers collide with cars yearly, according to stats from the Manitoba Public Insurance from 2010-2014. October and November are the worst months for collisions, and every year Manitoba cars collide with some form of wildlife about 11,000 times, with 300 of those resulting in injury and some in death. METRO

STATS

The top five areas for vehicle-deer collisions

1) Eastman Region, 1,600 yearly collisions
2) Westman, 1,450 yearly collisions
3) Interlake, 1,100 yearly collisions
4) City of Winnipeg, 600 yearly collisions
5) Pembina Valley, 600 yearly collisions

Handi Transit users want service overhaul

TRANSPORTATION

'Plethora of issues' going to the ombudsman

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

The Independent Living Resource Centre (ILRC) is filing a formal complaint with the Manitoba Ombudsman about the problems it says its users face when using Winnipeg Handi Transit.

The organization announced Thursday the complaint it has been working on with the help of the Public Interest Law Centre for the last two-and-a half-years is complete and will be in the hands of the Ombudsman in the coming days.

"It's not one issue, it's a plethora of issues," said ILRC executive director John Young. "If we don't have transportation then we don't have independence… the majority of the people in this room depend on that transportation to make a livelihood, to pay taxes, to participate in the community — to do the things that we need to do in order to have functioning and healthy families."

The report documents problems people say they're having with the taxpayer-supported service including arbitrary fines for service cancellations, invasive application procedures, and drivers who aren't properly trained.

Terry McIntosh, of the Independent Living Resource Centre, holds up a copy of the formal complaint the group will file with the Manitoba Ombudsman demanding changes to the Winnipeg Handi Transit system. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Terry McIntosh, who was born with spinal muscular atrophy and uses a motorized wheelchair, has relied on Handi Transit to get her to and from work at the ILRC for the last 30 years.

She tells Metro she first started seeing problems with the service 10 years ago.

> **If we don't have transportation then we don't have independence.**
> John Young

Those troubles include changes to her scheduled pickup times that have left her more than often too late to meet her personal care attendant at her home after work.

"It's been -30 C outside and they're sitting out there on my deck waiting for me," she said.

"I don't what's changed, budget cuts, changes to management."

McIntosh says of the dozens of complaints she's made over the years, she's only ever been called back once.

A city spokesperson says the city has been in contact with the ILRC and will meet with them to "work towards the resolution of any issues."

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FORTUNE BLOCK

The clock could be ticking for club

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

The times might not be the only things changing at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club if the building's owner gets his way.

The owner of the Fortune Block — the 130-plus year-old building at the corner of Main Street and St. Mary Avenue that's been home to the bar and music venue for 30 years — asked the city's historical building and resources committee Thursday to keep the building off Winnipeg's list.

Being on that list would protect the building from being torn down.

In a letter to the committee, building owner George Landis said the building is "beyond repair" and stopping demolition and redevelopment would be "economically unfeasible and a disservice to the community."

But not everyone in Winnipeg's music community agrees.

Amber Quesnel, singer from local folk trio Sweet Alibi — who've been a mainstay at the club for several years — told Metro losing the Times Change(d) would be devastating to Winnipeg's music scene.

"Everyone knows (owner John Scoles) hires all the best touring musicians and all the best local bands play there," she said over the phone from Toronto, where Sweet Alibi is performing at the Folk Music Ontario conference.

> **It's just really a nice place — it's like a little community.**
> Amber Quesnel

At Thursday's meeting, members of the historical building and resources committee decided to give the building a heritage designation, but the final decision rests in the hands of the downtown development committee and council as a whole.

Scoles said he would open someplace else if needed. "I'll be damned if I don't fight for that little home that we've built there, but if fate forces us out then we'll probably end up in a space where we all go, 'Ah, this is pretty good too.'"

Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club owner John Scoles sits on the bar of the Main Street blues bar Thursday. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Travel Manitoba production manager Stephanie Kowalchuk shows off the interactive feature wall at the redesigned Travel Manitoba Visitor Information Centre on Thursday. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

Travel centre offers tourism and tech

THE FORKS

Redesign will save $300,000 over 10 years

Dave Baxter
Metro | Winnipeg

The redesigned Travel Manitoba Visitor Information Centre officially opened its doors at The Forks on Thursday, and now those looking to explore Manitoba can use modern technology to make their travel plans.

Through a partnership between the province and The Forks Renewal Corporation, Travel Manitoba redesigned the visitor centre, adding new technology they said will help them keep up with the changing way tourism is marketed to consumers.

The new centre features technology and travel counsellors, and offers the ability to tailor a tourism experience to the visitor's specific interests or needs, said the province.

> **Manitobans are proud of their province, and our booming tourism industry is bringing more and more people here than ever before.** Premier Greg Selinger

Some displays allow visitors to view different areas of the province in panoramic views, while others allow visitors to create their own travel itinerary.

The new centre also allows Travel Manitoba's Winnipeg staff to relocate within the centre, resulting in savings of more than $300,000 over 10 years, said the province.

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Q: How much weight have you lost?

1. My first week I lost 6.25 pounds and 15 inches. To date I have lost 47 pounds and 55 inches of fat.

Q: How did you gain your weight?

2. In the early 1990's I quit smoking. I didn't gain a lot right away because I was active but then winter came and that's when I gained the weight. Whenever I got stressed I ate instead of smoked. Then in 1998 I was in a terrible car accident and couldn't do much except sit in a chair. Thats when I gained even more weight.

Q: What was the final straw that made you decide to start your weight loss journey?

3. I have tried other sources but they just didn't work for me. I had even gone as far as wanting gastric bypass surgery. I thought that would be the only way left for me to go. I was worried because I developed type 2 diabetes. My last straw was watching my sugar levels continue to climb and same with my insulin dose. I have 4 small children at home and knew I needed to be there for them but the way I was going I knew I wouldn't be.

Q: How did you feel about seeking help with your weight loss?

4. I knew I couldn't do this alone anymore. I knew I needed help and support was the biggest thing for me.

Q: What happened initially when you started with U Weight Loss Clinic?

5. I walked in to UWL here in Winnipeg and was greeted by everyone. It felt good that I had made the right decision to book an appointment for my healthy weight analysis.

Q: So what did you like most about the program?

6. I like that I can plan my own meals with U Weight Loss meal plans and that if I have any difficulties I can call anytime for some support.

Q: What made this program different than other diets you tried?

7. They have meal plans that I can prepare easily on my own and that it fulfills what my body requires.

Q: What were some of your favorite recipes

8. There are so many recipes to choose from. I have many favorites such as the chicken and sweet potato and the cheeseburger wrap.

Q: How do you feel now?

9. I feel great with my weight loss progress to date. My ACI (a test that tells you blood sugar levels) is 6.8. This is the lowest they have been sine 2000! I am now off all of my diabetic medications. Prior to program,my insulin intake was up to 70 units a day (65 in the morning and 5 before bed) plus a fast release insulin (46 units in the morning)

Q: Any advice for anyone struggling with weight loss and health related challenges?

10. I would encourage those who are struggling with their weight loss to at least try U Weight Loss. This is not a diet but an education on how to change bad eating habits. It's very hard to lose weight on your own. I know this personally since I've been there. I needed to join a place that would be there for me if things got rough and the staff at U weight Loss here in town are there to help you when you are struggling. I wish I had joined earlier but I can't change the past. I need to go forward one day at a time. Most importantly, I am off ALL DIABETIC MEDICATIONS(Insulin and Metaformin) and have only 8 pounds to go to reach my personal goal! I feel amazing and hope my story helps someone else here in Winnipeg to lose weight and enjoy a healthy life!!

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BIZ adds new hands to roster

COMMUNITY TEAMS

Inspector Scot Halley says city being 'reinvigorated'

Dave Baxter
Metro | Winnipeg

The Downtown Winnipeg BIZ is bringing in a few extra hands to make downtown Winnipeg safer and cleaner.

On Thursday the BIZ announced they have added five Downtown Watch ambassadors to enhance safety, and five Metro Enviro-Clean Team members to enhance cleanliness in the downtown, especially around "event destinations."

Metro Winnipeg is one of the sponsors of the Enviro-Clean team.

The BIZ said Winnipeggers will now notice a greater presence by their Watch and Enviro-Clean teams in the city with Watch teams patrolling regularly from 4 p.m. until 12 a.m., and Enviro-Clean Teams out from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Metro Enviro-Clean Team members Mike Haskins and Darcy Vallantyne with Downtown Watch ambassadors Christine Mazerolle and Brendon Shopp at Thursday's announcement. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

Winnipeg Police inspector Scot Halley said he believes initiatives like the Downtown Watch and Enviro-Clean Teams are working because he sees downtown Winnipeg returning to the safe and bustling place he remembers it being when he was a kid.

"The heart of the city has been reinvigorated by so much development," said Halley.

The BIZ said that with the return of the Manitoba Moose who will play in the city along with the Winnipeg Jets, and more restaurants opening downtown, they felt it was time to put more boots on the ground.

Watch ambassadors patrol streets and skywalks, provide "SafeWalks," and watch for suspicious activity. The Metro Enviro-Clean Team removes litter, sweeps sidewalks, waters flowers, and removes graffiti.

The BIZ also announced they are setting up welcome kiosks downtown to give out information and maps and give directions to places like the MTS Centre or the Winnipeg convention Centre.

The total cost for the Downtown Winnipeg Biz and its members for the added services is about $285,000.

IN BRIEF

Province pumps cash into Manitoba Museum

The province said Thursday a $10 million investment will go a long way towards rejuvenating the Manitoba Museum.

"Museum visitors will be offered enhanced and contemporized stories of Manitoba with a strong focus on Indigenous people, immigration, first contact and trade, and the connection between people and nature," said Manitoba Museum board chair Scott Craig.

"Bringing Our Stories Forward is the second stepping-stone project of the Museum's Capital Renewal Plan, building on the Alloway Hall Expansion and Renewal Project announced earlier this year," said capital renewal committee chair Jeoff Chipman.

The project will take three years to develop and install, said the premier, who added additional funding for the $16-million proposal is expected to come from a private-sector capital campaign, and other levels of government.

METRO

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PATRICK MCNEILL

2015 FLASH FEST PHOTOGRAPHER

When Patrick McNeill is out trying to create a great photograph he is so engrossed in the creative process that he'll have no idea of how much time has passed.

He has battled polar bears, precipitous cliffs, and 4am alarm clocks, all in order to get the right shot (*note*: slight polar bear exaggeration). His best photos are generally taken around Manitoba when he has time to wait for the right light or to return to a site if he hasn't quite gotten the shot that he has in mind. But he's also been able to create some intriguing photos in the more than forty countries he's been to overseas (please don't ask him to pick a favourite). Patrick focuses mainly on landscapes, architecture, and abstract images. The exhibit at cityplace features some local as well as international photographs.

More of his work can be viewed online at www.burntpixel.ca.

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FLASH is Winnipeg's First Annual Photographic Festival. Each October the city will see photographs on walls in cafes, shops and galleries; giving a venue for established and emerging artists. Founded in 2014 The Flash Photographic Festival educates, demonstrates, and illuminates.

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Finance chair Coun. Marty Morantz says the committee did not give a timeline as to when Winnipeg Transit will have repaired the faulty engine parts. METRO FILE

Cummins to help Transit pay for faulty engine parts

CITY BUSES

Company to give $7000

The company behind the faulty engine parts that's taken dozens of buses off city streets and forced Winnipeg Transit to scale back its fall schedule is helping to pay for repairs.

Transit director Dave Wardrop told the city's finance committee Thursday Cummins — the manufacturer of faulty emission control units found in more than 100 buses the city bought between 2011 and 2013 — has agreed to pay $7,700 of the roughly $11,500 it'll cost to replace the part in each bus.

Wardrop has previously said buses started breaking down between 12 to 18 months ago, and after mechanics took a job action last spring, the maintenance work backed up and led to Transit cutting its service back in September.

Wardrop was at the finance committee meeting after a transit report requested committee members allow the service to take $730,000 out of its retained earnings from over the year, in part to cover the cost of the maintenance issues. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

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SPORTS

Bombers launch ticket drive early

The Winnipeg Football Club has launched their season ticket renewal campaign early, but says prices will stay the same on tickets.

Parking passes will be cheaper, at $185 a season instead of $200.

"Season Ticket renewal is beginning earlier than ever before in response to fan requests to start this process before the season ends. With no ticket price increase for 2016 and a reduction on the cost of parking passes, we want our Season Ticket Members to know we have listened to them and they are valued," said Wade Miller, President of the Winnipeg Football Club.

Miller also acknowledged fans' frustration with the team's record, but said he felt Head Coach Mike O'Shea was building a strong foundation for the team.

The Bombers have been inconsistent all season, partly thanks to a revolving door of quarterbacks since starter Drew Willy was injured. METRO

Head coach Mike O'Shea. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

Winnipeg man dies after beating, body undiscovered for two days

Police have charged a man with second degree murder in connection to the beating death of a man at a downtown hotel whose body went unnoticed for two days.

The body of Walter Lavasseur, 56, of Winnipeg, was found in a room at a hotel in the 100 block of Higgins Avenue Tuesday morning.

Police say he'd been assaulted by another man who lives at the hotel two days earlier.

A suspect was arrested at the scene and charged with aggravated assault, but those charges were upgraded after an autopsy showed the victim died from injuries connected to the assault.

James Michael Jarrow, 45, of Winnipeg, is charged with second degree murder. METRO

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READY TO ENGAGE

Metro's daily primer on what the parties are saying about the issues that matter to urban Canadians

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau poses for a selfie with a student while touring Mohawk College, in Hamilton, Ont., Wednesday. Youth turnout sat at a dismal 39 per cent last election, which means 61 per cent of young people are now getting exactly what they deserve from politicians: nothing, Rosemary Westwood argues. PAUL CHIASSON/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

Don't just 'expect' democracy

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
Metro

Over the course of last week, in a deeply francophone suburb of Montreal, 2,017 students on one CEGEP campus cast a vote.

None of those ballots will count on Monday's election. They're part of Student Vote, a non-partisan push to engage young Canadians in politics via mock elections.

But Semra Sevi, the 26-year-old teacher who organized the vote, hopes at least some of the fake ballots will translate into real ones.

Her students, aged 18 to 24, are part of the elusive "youth vote" — the cohort hailed by Rick Mercer as a democratic silver bullet that could "change the country," and sought by groups like votesavvy.ca youthvote.ca, the Council of Canadians vote pledge, and even Elections Canada, which set up special polls on Canadian campuses to lure more young Canadians.

All these efforts are admirable, and I genuinely hope they work. Youth turnout sat at a dismal 39 per cent last election, which means that 61 per cent of young people are getting exactly what they deserve from politicians this time around: nothing. Election platforms are offering to people under 45 pennies for every dollar offered to those over 65, according to a Generation Squeeze report.

Why, some ask, would politicians speak to a group that doesn't bother to vote? Why, others ask, would people vote for politicians who ignore them? Some call it apathy; others prefer cynicism.

My view: we're spoiled brats.

You know why young people don't feel the need to value democracy? Because they expect it. For most of us, life in Canada is pretty great. Even for those Canadian children growing up in poverty, there are still benefits to living in Canada that cannot be found in many places in the world — small freedoms, such as they are: the lack of a brutal dictator, free schools, clean air.

When Semra Sevi was asking her students about voting, before she started the Student Vote campaign, they told her they felt ignored by politicians.

"They didn't feel like politicians deserved their vote," she told me.

But the question isn't whether politicians deserve your vote: it's whether democracy deserves your participation.

Anyone who refuses to vote is freeloading. They are abdicating their responsibility, yes, but far more importantly, they are expecting the rest of us to pick up the slack. That's true even of those seeking political change through activism, who would lobby officials for change, without bothering to help elect them.

I've been racking my brain trying to think up some kind of experience that we could give young people so they could no longer hold onto the excuse of ignorance.

Some kind of equivalent to the dangerous two-hour journey to school taken by a boy and his sister in Kenya, and depicted in the documentary On the Way to School. You know what the kids do when they finally get to class? They shut up and listen to their teacher. They had to work so hard just to get there, that they hungered for an education.

And yet we, steeped as we are in the benefits of a rich democracy, seem already far too well-fed.

If young people do not, a la Mercer, "change the country" this time around, I'll be hard pressed to hold out much hope for the next time.

And what they say about us millennials will in fact be true: we have no idea how good we have it.

2015 ELECTION COUNTDOWN

Rosie Westwood reflects on the key issues.

- TUES. Women
- WED. Environment
- THURS. Canadian values
- FRI. Youth engagement

> **Anyone who refuses to vote is freeloading. They are abdicating their responsibility, yes, but far more importantly, they are expecting the rest of us to pick up the slack.**

QUICK GUIDE
YOUTH ISSUES

Here's a breakdown of promises and legislative measures from the **NDP**, **Liberals**, **Conservatives** and **Greens**

ON EDUCATION

Conservatives:
- Promise to raise government contribution to education savings plans.
- Lower the minimum course length required to qualify for financial assistance from 60 to 34 weeks.

Liberals:
- Increase Canada Student Grants by 50 per cent.
- Allow students to wait until they're earning $25,000 a year before having to repay student loans.

NDP:
- Eliminate interest on student loans over seven years.
- Spend $250 million to create 74,000 new grants for students over four years.
- Improve educational outcomes for First Nations.

Greens:
- Cut tuition fees for low-income students and families.
- Forgive all student loans over $10,000.
- Eliminate interest on new student loans.

ON YOUTH JOBS

Conservatives:
- Increase apprenticeship job creation tax credit.
- Aim to create 1.3 million net new jobs overall by 2020.

Liberals:
- Spend $300 million a year to create 120,000 jobs.
- Create 5,000 "green" jobs.
- Spend $40 million a year to support new co-op placements for students.

NDP:
- Establish $15-an-hour minimum wage.
- Provide up to $100 million a year to create more than 40,000 jobs, paid internships and co-op placements for youth over four years.

Greens:
- Create Youth Community and Environment Service Corps, which would provide minimum-wage employment for 40,000 youth every year for four years.

LATEST POLL **LIB 37%** **CON 29%** **NDP 23%** Source: Nanos/CTV

The Conservatives and NDP attacked apparent front-runner Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau, with remarks about the sponsorship scandal. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leaders aim for Trudeau

ELECTION 2015

Grits fire back with criticism of Tories' Ford support

The Dan Gagnier drag chute billowed out behind the Liberal campaign Thursday, giving Stephen Harper and Tom Mulcair a badly needed chance to catch up to the apparent front-runner, Justin Trudeau.

Trudeau, however, gave as good as he got — at least as far as the Conservative leader was concerned — by amping up the outrage over Rob and Doug Ford's recent appearance on the Tory trail.

Gagnier, the party's campaign co-chairman, abruptly quit his volunteer post Wednesday after The Canadian Press disclosed details of an email in which he provides lobbying advice to an oil pipeline company.

That gave Harper and Mulcair the perfect opportunity to take a swing at a long-standing Achilles heel for the Liberals: the sponsorship scandal.

"They can try to put a fresh face on it, but behind the scenes it's still the same old gang pulling the same old tricks," said the NDP's Mulcair, who could barely contain his glee.

"You can't trust the Liberals. It's the same old Liberal party."

Trudeau, Mulcair noted, has been campaigning alongside former Liberal stalwarts Jean Chretien and Paul Martin, who presided over the party during the sponsorship scandal, in which firms won contracts based on donations to the Liberals with little work being done. Some of the cash was kicked back to Liberal operatives.

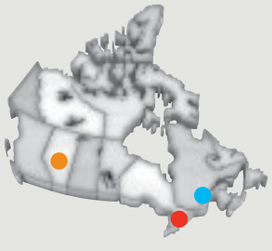
Harper, who was in Opposition at the height of the controversy, also seized on the chance to break out some of his greatest hits.

"I think we should all understand that the culture of the Liberal party that gave us the sponsorship scandal has not changed and it will not change."

For his part, Trudeau said Gagnier's departure demonstrates that the Liberals "take ethical standards and responsibilities extremely seriously."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE FRIDAY



- **Stephen Harper** will be in Quebec City.
- **Justin Trudeau** will be in Ontario in Mississauga, Brampton, Richmond Hill and Markham.
- **Tom Mulcair** will be in Lac-Mégantic, Que., and in Edmonton.
- **Elizabeth May's** itinerary was unavailable.

CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Harper stays mum on majority

Stephen Harper moved on to more optimistic turf for his party Thursday, starting a swing through Quebec after several days of sweating it out on the high-stakes electoral battlefield of Ontario.

But he's not quite optimistic enough to go where his Liberal rival did earlier this week when Justin Trudeau uttered the word "majority."

In response to a reporter's question, Trudeau said he is asking voters to give his Liberal party a majority. Harper, who was burned in 2004 for making similar late-campaign remarks, made it clear Thursday he's not following suit. Campaigning in Quebec, Harper was asked why he wasn't making the same request as Trudeau.

"We never take voters for granted in my party. That's not our approach," Harper said. "This is a tight race. We're here to encourage choice."

The choice, as the Conservative campaign puts it, is between a Liberal government that Harper says would drain money from Canadian wallets, and a Conservative government that would help keep it there. It's a point Harper has been illustrating all week by bringing a family or business owner up on stage to have them literally count out cash onto a waiting table, all to the incessant cha-ching of an old-timey cash register. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

UBC official resigns

A senior official at the University of British Columbia has stepped down after a retired judge found the institution failed to protect a professor's academic freedom when she wrote a critical blog post.

Former B.C. Supreme Court Justice Lynn Smith cleared chairman John Montalbano of wrongdoing, but she said in a report that he made "errors of judgment." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ken Taylor THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian hero Ken Taylor dies

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ambassador played key role in 1979 Iran Hostage Crisis

Ken Taylor, Canada's ambassador to Iran who sheltered Americans at his residence during the 1979 Iran hostage crisis has died. He was 81.

Taylor's wife, Pat, said Ken died Thursday after a two-month battle with colon cancer.

Taylor kept the Americans hidden at his residence and at the home of his deputy, John Sheardown, in Tehran for three months. Taylor facilitated their escape by arranging plane tickets and persuading the Ottawa government to issue fake passports.

Born in 1934 in Calgary, Taylor was heralded as a hero for helping save the Americans - a clandestine operation that had the full support of then Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark's government. In a posting on Twitter, Clark called Taylor a Canadian hero and a valued friend.

Some of Taylor's exploits in Iran in 1979 later became the subject of the 2012 Hollywood film, Argo. Taylor and others felt the film underplayed the role he and Canada played.

> **Ken Taylor represented the very best that Canada's foreign service has to offer.**
> Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Taylor's wife said his legacy is his generosity.

"He did all sorts of things for everyone without any expectation of something coming back," she told the Associated Press in a telephone interview.

"It's why that incident in Iran happened," she said. "There was no second thought about it. He just went ahead and did it. His legacy is that giving is what is important, not receiving. With all his friends that's what he did."

The six U.S. diplomats had managed to slip away when their embassy was overrun in 1979. They spent five days on the move, then took refuge at the Canadian Embassy for the next three months. Taylor immediately agreed to take them in without checking with the Canadian government.

The CIA consulted with Canadian officials on how to organize a rescue, and Canada gave permission for the diplomats to be issued fake Canadian passports.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ELECTION 2015

Tories snub downtown issues

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Conservative candidates completely ignored questions on the importance of downtowns in Canada, according to a new survey.

Downtowns Canada, an affiliate of the International Downtowns Association, set out last month to collect views from all political parties' candidates in 16 cities.

The survey was developed in consultation with local BIAs, and sought candidates' insights on how their party intends to address four key national issues: infrastructure/investment; social justice; affordable and social housing — with mental health and addictions support — as well as economic development.

No one candidate from the Conservative party either responded to the survey or participated in the town hall discussions held as part of the study, according to the report slated to come out before the election.

"Clearly we'd have loved to hear all of the parties talk passionately about the importance of our downtown neighbourhoods, but that didn't happen," said Stefano Grande, chair of Downtowns Canada committee.

The group undertook the study in an effort to bring that discussion to a national level, by getting federal candidates involved in designing sustainable concepts from a grassroots level, he said.

> **We believe our downtowns are economic drivers.**
> Stefano Grande

Whether Conservatives' lack of participation in the study affects any future plans for the country's downtowns is up to individual voters to decide, Grande said.

WOMEN'S HEALTH

STI test rates plunge: Study

Young women in Ontario are being screened for sexually transmitted infections far less often since updated guidelines reduced the frequency of Pap tests for cervical cancer, a study suggests.

Researchers at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto found the guidelines, which were rewritten in 2012, reduced Pap smear rates by 60 per cent in the year after their introduction — and that led to a 50 per cent drop in gonorrhea and chlamydia testing among women aged 15 to 24.

Patients were also less likely to be screened for syphilis, hepatitis C and HIV.

Prior to 2012, women were advised to start cervical cancer screening within three years of becoming sexually active, followed by annual testing. After three normal Pap test results, subsequent screening was recommended every two or three years until age 70.

The updated guidelines by Cancer Care Ontario recommend starting Pap tests at age 21 for women who have been sexually active, with three-year screening intervals if test results are normal.

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$18,980

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$28,980

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STK#9452
$25,980

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STK#114T1342A
66000KM
$12,980

2014 Mitsubishi Outlander

STK#15T5825A
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Tear gas released in Kosovo parliament

Opposition lawmakers in Kosovo interrupted a session of parliament on Thursday to protest the deal giving the country's Serb-majority areas greater powers. VISAR KRYEZIU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POLITICS

Opposition disrupt session on Serbia, Montenegro

Opposition lawmakers angry at Kosovo's recent deals with Serbia and Montenegro set off tear gas canisters Thursday in Parliament, forcing the suspension of the session.

Lawmakers left the chamber after witnesses said a tear gas canister was opened in the opposition seats, followed by one or two others. It was the second week in a row that tear gas had been used in Parliament in protests that began with the egging of Prime Minister Isa Mustafa last month.

The opposition, led by the Self-Determination party, said no more parliamentary sessions should be held and pledged to continue the protests.

The government harshly denounced the use of tear gas as "an irresponsible behaviour not in line with any ethic, moral and practical democratic code."

Parliament Speaker Kadri Veseli urged the opposition to use Parliament to express disagreements professionally and respect its rules and the law.

"Their behaviour so far is violating such a possibility and suffocating democracy," he said at a news conference.

One of the EU-sponsored deals gives Kosovo's Serb-majority areas greater powers, while the other covers border demarcation with Montenegro. The opposition wants the government to withdraw from the deals, saying they endanger Kosovo's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

"Only backtracking from these deals will bring institutional and social normalcy in Kosovo," the opposition said in a statement.

> **"Their behaviour so far is violating such a possibility and suffocating democracy.**
> Kadri Veseli

The governing coalition says the opposition wants to come to power through unconstitutional means.

Outside the building, about 100 opposition supporters rallied calmly.

Parliament decided Wednesday that all lawmakers should be checked as they entered the chamber. Police said they would investigate how the tear gas canisters still made it in.

Fifteen policemen and a number of protesters were injured in clashes Monday after Self-Determination Party leader Albin Kurti was detained for questioning.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INVESTIGATION

Iran meets nuclear arms probe deadline

The UN nuclear agency will be able to deliver an assessment of the suspicions that Iran worked on atomic weapons by Dec. 15, as planned, it said Thursday.

The agency said in a statement that it has completed a series of meetings with Iranian officials focused on "ambiguities" in information previously provided by Tehran, allowing the IAEA to deliver the report in the time frame set out in a deal between Iran and six world powers.

Iran says it never worked on nuclear weapons, and it is unclear whether the agency will be able to make a definite ruling on the allegations. Diplomats have previously said that the report may confirm only that Iran provided answers to all IAEA questions without saying outright that the answers confirmed or disproved the suspicions.

But they say an IAEA ruling that Iran has co-operated could allow the United States and its allies to accept an end to decade-long attempts to probe the allegations.

Washington and its allies insist they have evidence of past nuclear arms work by Tehran. But the diplomats say the U.S. is ready to accept a vaguer report than it would normally demand because seeking further clarity would lead to deadlock that would jeopardize the larger agreement.

That overarching deal was reached July 14, but the date for its adoption is this Sunday. That makes IAEA confirmation that Iran met the deadline before Sunday important.

Formal adoption clears the way for the start of implementation of the actions set out in the deal — cuts in Iran's nuclear program in exchange for lifting of economic sanctions that have crippled Iran.

Officials from Iran and the six nations — the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany — are meeting in Vienna Monday to discuss those next steps.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HUMAN RIGHTS

EU Sakharov Prize finalists announced

Assassinated Russian opposition leader Boris Nemtsov, Saudi blogger Raif Badawi and the Democratic Opposition in Venezuela are the three finalists for the European Union's top human rights prize.

The three were announced Thursday by the European Parliament. The winner of the Sakharov Prize will be announced on Oct. 29.

Nemtsov, a former deputy prime minister turned critic of Russian President Vladimir Putin, was assassinated Feb. 27, 2015.

Badawi was arrested three years ago and sentenced to 10 years in prison and 1,000 lashings for allegedly insulting Islamic values.

The Democratic Opposition in Venezuela, a coalition opposing the ruling party, has seen several members detained or placed under house arrest.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Oct. 18th, Sun. – The Claim
Oct. 19th, Mon. – The Final Countdown
Oct. 20th, Tues. – Unholy Liaisons
Oct. 21st, Wed. – Divine Manifesto
Oct. 22nd, Thurs. – Holy Vengeance
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Troops target Homs

SYRIA

Russian allies carry out rare airstrike on ISIL position

Syrian troops and their allies launched an offensive in the central province of Homs on Thursday and Russia's government said its warplanes carried out a rare airstrike near Damascus, targeting a position of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) southeast of the capital.

The offensive came as a senior Iranian official told reporters in Damascus that Tehran would consider sending troops to Syria only upon a request from the Syrian government.

Alaeddin Boroujerdi, the head of a parliamentary committee on national security and foreign policy, reiterated his country's full support for the Syrian government, stressing that a political solution is the only way for Syria to emerge from the current crisis.

Syrian army personnel fire a cannon in Latakia province, about 12 kilometres from the Syria-Turkey border, last week. ALEXANDER KOTS/KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA COURTESY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boroujerdi's comments came despite reports that hundreds of Iranian troops have already been deployed in northern and central Syria, dramatically escalating Tehran's involvement in the civil war as they join allied Hezbollah fighters in an ambitious offensive to wrest key areas from rebels.

A regional official who has knowledge of operational details in Syria told The Associated Press on Wednesday about 1,500 Iranian revolutionary guards have arrived in Syria in the past two weeks. Other Syrian activists also reported the fresh arrival of Iranian troops.

Asked whether Iran has forces on the ground, Boroujerdi said: "According to Iran's anti-terrorism strategy, we submitted weapons and experts to those two countries (Iraq and Syria). Any other request will be considered and debated in Iran."

Iranian and Syrian officials have long acknowledged Iran has advisers and military experts in Syria, but denied the presence of any ground troops. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REFUGEE CRISIS

EU leaders moving to shore up borders

Faced with a refugee emergency that is only likely to deepen, European Union leaders moved on Thursday to shore up the bloc's borders to the outside world and fundamentally reshape the way they deal with asylum seekers.

The leaders also struggled to persuade a reluctant Turkey to do more to stop tens of thousands of refugees entering Greece — offering vast amounts of money, easing visa restrictions for Turkish citizens and accelerating the country's EU membership talks.

According to draft conclusions seen by The Associated Press, an action plan for Ankara to help it manage the impact of some two million refugees will be rapidly implemented, and diplomats said that the country could receive several billion euros in additional funds.

But as the leaders met, senior EU officials lashed out at the leaders for failing to live up to past promises of funds and resources.

Thousands of people continue to risk the dangerous journey daily. Greece recovered seven more bodies off the island of Lesbos Thursday after a migrant boat collision, and shivering newcomers streamed into Croatia.

They are just some of the more than 500,000 people fleeing war or poverty to enter Europe this year, most of them via Greece and Italy.

In response, EU leaders promised last month to provide hundreds of millions of euros for Syrian refugees and to help Africa better manage its borders, as well as funding experts to fingerprint and screen new arrivals in Italy and Greece. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FUNDING

The European Commission has complained that only three of 28 nations have pledged a total of just $13.7 million to a fund to help African nations better manage their borders. The pot is meant to total about $2 billion over two years.

IN BRIEF

Hastert to plead guilty in hush-money case

Former U.S. House Speaker Dennis Hastert intends to plead guilty in a federal hush-money case linked to allegations of sexual misconduct from decades ago, a defence attorney told a federal judge Thursday.

Hastert, a Republican, is charged with one count of breaking banking laws and one count of lying to the FBI about agreeing to pay someone $3.5 million to hide claims of an unspecified past misconduct. Each count carries a maximum five-year prison term. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clinton vows to keep challenging gun lobby

Hillary Clinton says she will "not be silenced" when it comes to talking about gun violence, renewing her debate-night tangle with rival Bernie Sanders.

Clinton said at a rally in San Antonio that she's "been told by some to quit talking about this." She says she'll continue to challenge the National Rifle Association, the most powerful gun lobby in the U.S. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFGHANISTAN

U.S. tank forces way into bombed charity

A medical charity whose hospital in northern Afghanistan was bombed by the U.S. military said on Thursday that a U.S. tank forced its way through the closed gates of the compound, contravening an agreement that they would be informed.

Doctors Without Borders, also known as MSF, said they were informed after the "intrusion" that it was by a delegation from a joint U.S.-NATO-Afghan team investigating the Oct. 3 bombing of the hospital.

The incident violated an agreement with investigators that MSF "would be given notice before each step of the procedure involving the organization's personnel and assets."

"Their unannounced and forced entry damaged property, destroyed potential evidence and caused stress and fear," it said in a statement.

The strike on the MSF trauma hospital in the northern city of Kunduz killed 10 patients and 12 staff.

Another two staffers are now presumed dead, the group said this week,

U.S. President Barack Obama apologized for the bombing, which the commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, Gen. John F. Campbell called a "mistake." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Christopher Stokes, second left, of Doctors Without Borders, and his colleague at their hospital gate in the city of Kunduz on Thursday. NAJIM RAHIM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Public dissection of lion sparks outrage

DENMARK

Zoo accused of having a lack of compassion

A Danish zoo publicly dissected a year-old male lion Thursday, pulling out its blood-red organs to show a few hundred people — including children — an event met outside of Denmark with criticism and online protests.

Adult spectators brought scarfs to their noses to ward off the pungent smell as they watched the dissection, considered by many in this Scandinavian country of 5.6 million to be an educational program. The event was deliberately scheduled to take place during the annual fall school holidays.

A Brussels-based animal protection group, however, sharply criticized Odense Zoo for killing three healthy young lions this year.

One of central Denmark's most popular tourist attractions, the Odense zoo has done public dissections for 20 years. On Thursday, scores of children stood around a table where the zoo had displayed a stuffed lion cub next to the lion being dissected.

Odense Zoo employee Lotte Tranberg said the male lion and its two siblings were killed in February because they were getting sexually mature and could have started mating with each other and the zoo wanted to avoid inbreeding. They also could have killed each other because they would have been kept in the same enclosure, she said.

On Facebook, a few dozen people on Thursday accused the zoo and Denmark of having a lack of compassion. But on the zoo's Facebook page, ordinary Danes defended the dissection, asking English-speaking commentators whether they ever had been to a slaughterhouse. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Children reacts to the dissection of a dead male lion in Odense Zoo, Denmark, Thursday.
OLE FREDERIKSEN/POLFOTO VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WORLD MONUMENTS FUND

Cultural heritage sites threatened

A labour camp in Albania, a burial site in Chile and a Spanish mission in New Mexico are among a list of cultural heritage sites threatened by neglect, overdevelopment or social, political and economic change, a preservation group announced Thursday.

The World Monuments Fund's biennial list cited 50 sites from ancient times to modern times in 36 countries.

The New York-based preservation group began issuing its World Monuments Watch list in 1996 to call attention to important landmarks threatened around the world in an effort to promote awareness and action.

The organization listed the notorious Spac Prison in Albania for its advanced state of deterioration — a site the group said deserved to be saved as a modern place of remembrance.

The General Cemetery of Santiago, a burial site of presidents and other luminaries, was singled out because of the deterioration it has suffered from numerous earthquakes and consequent neglect.

In citing the 1629 San Estevan Del Rey Mission, the organization said restoration of the national historic landmark in Acoma, New Mexico, was long overdue and in dire need of investment.

The list is assembled by a panel of experts in archeology, architecture, art history and preservation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Lockerbie bombing suspects sought

Scottish prosecutors say they have identified two Libyans as suspects in the 1988 bombing of a passenger jet over the town of Lockerbie, and want to interview them in Tripoli.

The unnamed Libyans are suspected of involvement with Abdel Baset al-Megrahi, the only person convicted in the attack. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOUTH AFRICA

Parole board lets Pistorius serve sentence under house arrest

Oscar Pistorius, the double-amputee Olympic runner who shot his girlfriend to death on Valentine's Day 2013, can leave prison and move to house arrest next week, South Africa's Department of Corrections said Thursday.

A parole board at the prison where Pistorius has served nearly a year of his five-year sentence for culpable homicide — comparable to manslaughter — made the decision. It came after an initial ruling to release the athlete in August was cancelled at the last minute after intervention by the justice minister.

Pistorius was acquitted of murder last year for the shooting death of Reeva Steenkamp, but prosecutors have appealed that trial verdict and will seek a murder conviction again at South Africa's Supreme Court on Nov. 3.

The appeal will come just two weeks after Pistorius is freed next Tuesday. If Pistorius is convicted of murder by a panel of five judges at the appeal, he faces going back to prison for 15 years, the minimum sentence for murder in South Africa, which no longer has the death penalty.

Pistorius has maintained he thought Steenkamp was an intruder in his Pretoria home and killed her by mistake. Prosecutors said he shot her intentionally during an argument after she had fled to a bathroom stall.

The 28-year-old Pistorius is expected to serve his house arrest at his uncle's mansion in an upmarket suburb of Pretoria. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Valeant facing scrutiny in U.S.

PHARMACEUTICALS

Subpoenas follow price hikes for two heart drugs

Valeant Pharmaceuticals stock plunged again Thursday after the company said U.S. federal prosecutors in Massachusetts and New York are seeking information on its drug pricing, distribution and patient assistance program.

The Quebec-based company, the largest drug company in the country, said most of the materials requested by the subpoenas from the U.S. Attorney's offices in the two states relate to the company's patient assistance programs, including financial support provided for patients and pricing decisions.

The U.S. Congress became interested in Valeant following its purchase of the heart drugs Nitropress and Isuprel and subsequent price increases, which ranged from a doubling to a more than tripling in price for the drugs. The drugs are administered in hospitals as part of a larger treatment protocol.

Responding to a letter from Sen. Claire McCaskill, Valeant chairman and CEO Michael Pearson said the higher list price for its two drugs won't affect patients and will have a "limited impact" on hospital costs because reimbursements for procedures including these drugs from the patient's insurance provider or a federal health program won't change.

"Because these drugs are hospital-administered and generally are not purchased directly, increasing the cost of the drugs to hospitals should not reduce patient access," he said.

Valeant said heavy discounts and price caps reduce the impact of high gross prices. For example, it earned just $317,588 US in net revenues from the sale of Isuprel to the Department of Veterans Affairs as of Sept. 30 even though gross sales were $10.9 million US.

Pearson said the price hikes have stimulated other companies to work on lower-priced alternatives.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

$4.9 billion

Valeant Pharmaceuticals said its overall $4.9 billion US in revenues in the first half of the year included only $126 million US from Nitropress and $121 million US from Isuprel.

Canada's largest drugmaker said most of the information requested relate to patient assistance programs, including financial support for patients. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EMPLOYMENT

Interns ripe for exploitation by firms seeking free labour

You must be punctual. You must own your own car. You will be emailing and calling seven days a week at all hours. You must never make spelling mistakes. You should be excited to work in the music industry.

Manager and promoter Amir Epstein says he's fielded at least two dozen applications for the internship with the Epstein Management music agency.

He said he doesn't believe his posting violates the law.

In Ontario, where Epstein Management is located, unpaid internships are legal only under certain criteria.

Epstein Management is far from the only company looking for unpaid interns despite Ontario's ongoing crackdown on the practice. More than a dozen ads on Kijiji seek volunteer labour.

The youth unemployment rate sits at 13.1 per cent — almost double the national average — as about 170,000 fewer young people are in the workforce than before the recession. Critics suggest that makes young Canadians vulnerable to exploitation from those seeking free labour.

Labour lawyer Andrew Langille said there's nothing wrong with internships that provide education and skills to young people without pay, but that the current lack of protections leaves the system ripe for exploitation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADS ON KIJIJI

Unpaid positions

Ads on the Toronto section of the Kijiji classifieds include one man seeking marketing interns for a three-month commitment of more than 15 hours a week, while another ad seeks an unpaid employee at the Eurofab fabric store in downtown Toronto who will be required to clean and tidy the store as well as serve customers.

REAL ESTATE

Home sales slowing down

Canadian home sales in September were down from August as some of the country's hottest real estate markets saw sales cool, but prices continued to show strength.

The Canadian Real Estate Association said Thursday that home sales in September through its Multiple Listing Service were down 2.1 per cent compared with August.

The drop came as the number of sales fell in more than half of the local markets tracked in September, led by declines in Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto.

Sales in Vancouver were down 3.8 per cent for the month, while Toronto slipped 3.5 per cent. Calgary dropped 7.5 per cent.

Compared with a year ago, September sales for the country were up 0.7 per cent.

BMO senior economist Sal Guatieri said the Canadian housing market is cooling somewhat. However, prices were "frothy" in the Vancouver and Toronto markets.

The national average price for a home sold in September was $433,649, up 6.1 per cent from the same month a year ago. But, excluding the Vancouver and Toronto markets, the average was $334,705, up 2.9 per cent from September last year.

"The story for the Greater Vancouver area and Greater Toronto area is that continued strong demand for a limited supply of detached properties is sending prices through the roof as international migrants, young millennials and an apparent influx of foreign wealth flock to these two areas," Guatieri said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian home sales in September were down as some of the hottest real estate markets saw sales cool. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Innu lawsuit to go ahead

The Supreme Court of Canada has refused to end a class-action lawsuit filed by two Innu communities seeking $900 million from the Iron Ore Co. of Canada, which is majority owned by Rio Tinto, and the Quebec North Shore and Labrador Railway Co. for allegedly violating their rights for nearly 60 years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Liberal

metro VIEWS

Science put to rest : A study of African and South American hunter-gatherers found pre-industrial people likely slept 5.7-7.2 hours/night — busting the myth that modern life has destroyed slumber.

CAM TUCKER **DEFENDS BAUTISTA'S BAT FLIP**

The home run wasn't just an ordinary home run. It was the biggest moment in Blue Jays history since Joe Carter. The celebration that followed was of sheer passion.

FLIPPING CONTROVERSIAL **Jose Bautista's extravagant bat toss was fitting because he led the Jays to an epic comeback Wednesday, writes Cam Tucker.** DARREN CALABRESE /THE CANADIAN PRESS

It was the bat flip to end all bat flips. Epic. Defiant. Oh, and of course it was controversial.

Jose Bautista, after launching the most important home run for the Toronto Blue Jays in more than 20 years and the most important of his career, stood at home plate and in a swift, strong motion, tossed the bat he used to drive his team to the American League Championship Series into the air before the customary trot around the bases at Rogers Centre.

It is now an iconic moment. Social media made sure of that.

It's been 22 years since Joe Carter won the World Series for the Blue Jays on a home run to left field at was then the Sky Dome, the shots of him leaping into the air with that uninhibited smile as he rounded his way into history still ingrained in the minds of Canadians. Pure joy. No bat flip, though.

Naturally, what Bautista did Wednesday was going to draw critics.

Heck, the benches cleared when the triumphant hero reached home plate. It's garnered discussion throughout North America, on social media and sports talk radio, and has been written about on ESPN and Deadspin.

Among the notables to oppose Bautista's action is Texas pitcher Sam Dyson, who threw right into Bautista's wheelhouse and promptly watched the ball sail into the delirious frenzy of blue and white beyond the left-field fence.

If we demand our professional athletes remain stoic and subdued in their greatest moments, the fun and emotion is removed from the experience.

Of Bautista's bat flip, Dyson told reporters in Toronto: "Just kind of respect the game a little more."

And, "He's doing stuff that kids do in Wiffle ball games and backyard baseball."

Look, perhaps it would be justifiable to take issue with Bautista's bat flip if he busted that out in the middle of May against a team like the Oakland Athletics in the seventh inning of a blowout game. Forget disrespectful. Then it would just look silly

But this was Game 5 of the American League Division Series, winner take all. The Blue Jays trailed the series 2-0, looking dead and done, only to come roaring back to life, resurrecting fans who may have thought it was all over when the team departed for Texas for Games 3 and 4.

The three-run Bautista dinger broke open a 3-3 deadlock in the deciding game, providing the climax to the emotional — understatement — and now famous seventh inning.

It involved one of the strangest plays, when Toronto's Canadian catcher Russell Martin went to throw the ball back to the pitcher, hitting the bat of Rangers' Shin-Soo Choo — a live ball — leading to the go-ahead run for Texas. A lengthy umpires' review solidified the run, angering the Toronto crowd.

With the lead and nine outs away from advancing, the Rangers then committed three errors in the bottom half of the inning, leading to the Toronto comeback and Bautista's dinger. The benches cleared — twice. This wasn't ordinary. This was playoff baseball, if you'll pardon the expression, on steroids.

And the Bautista home run wasn't just an ordinary home run. He's hit plenty of those in his career with the Blue Jays.

It was the biggest moment in Blue Jays history since Joe Carter.

The celebration that followed was of sheer passion.

Sure, there are boundaries to celebrations. But how is Bautista tossing the bat any different from the New England Patriots' Rob Gronkowski spiking the football like he's trying to bury it?

If we demand our professional athletes remain stoic and subdued in their greatest moments, the fun and emotion, which is what October baseball is all about, is removed from the experience.

Robots don't play the game. Humans do. And humans tend to celebrate great accomplishments.

And that's why people shouldn't flip out over Bautista's bat flip.

Cam Tucker is a Vancouver-based sports reporter for Metro. He tweets at @CamTucker_Metro.

metroview

Government approach to science reads — sadly — like satire

John Dupuis
For Metro

It's been a great month for Canadian science. Queen's University physicist Arthur McDonald won the Nobel Prize for, as the citation reads, "the discovery of neutrino oscillations, which shows that neutrinos have mass." Curiosity-driven science done at the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory; pure science done in Canada by a Canadian.

Of course, pro forma congratulations were issued by the prime minister's office.

But sometimes satire can reflect reality better than anything true. Consider the recent Beaverton headline, "Harper left wondering who let Nobel Prize winner Arthur McDonald talk to the media." It's not literally true. McDonald did his fair share of interviews talking about his work and stressing the importance of the government balancing basic and applied research. He didn't explicitly mention our government, but we all knew what he meant.

The Nobel Committee has a history of making subtle political points with their choices. It's not hard to imagine they saw this election as an opportunity to make a point about basic science while acknowledging a deserving Canadian.

Back in 2013, Canada's National Research Council abandoned its balance of pure and applied research for a nearly exclusive focus on industry-driven work. As the new director at the time said, "Scientific discovery is not valuable unless it has commercial value." That's not how you discover neutrinos, or the principles of integrated circuits that underlie our entire technological society.

Another headline too good to be true, this from the Syrup Trap: "Government of Canada pledges $30 million to ignoring science." Again, we hear a deeper truth. From muzzling scientists, to dismantling the research libraries at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, to cancelling the long-form census, to firing thousands of scientists and shuttering dozens of research programs, this government has been dead-set against the principles of open inquiry in science and society.

And then there's "Tory candidate Sabrina Zuniga says ground will absorb oil spills." Oh, sorry, that's not satire. A Conservative candidate actually said that. It's hard to believe someone could be both so ignorant and contemptuous of public well-being.

Is this the kind of country you want? Before you make your choice at the ballot box, research your preferred candidate's views on science and open inquiry. And after the election, contact your new (or re-elected) MP to say you support evidence-based decision-making in public policy.

John Dupuis is a science librarian at York University. He blogs about science, libraries and politics at Confessions of a Science Librarian and tweets @dupuisj.

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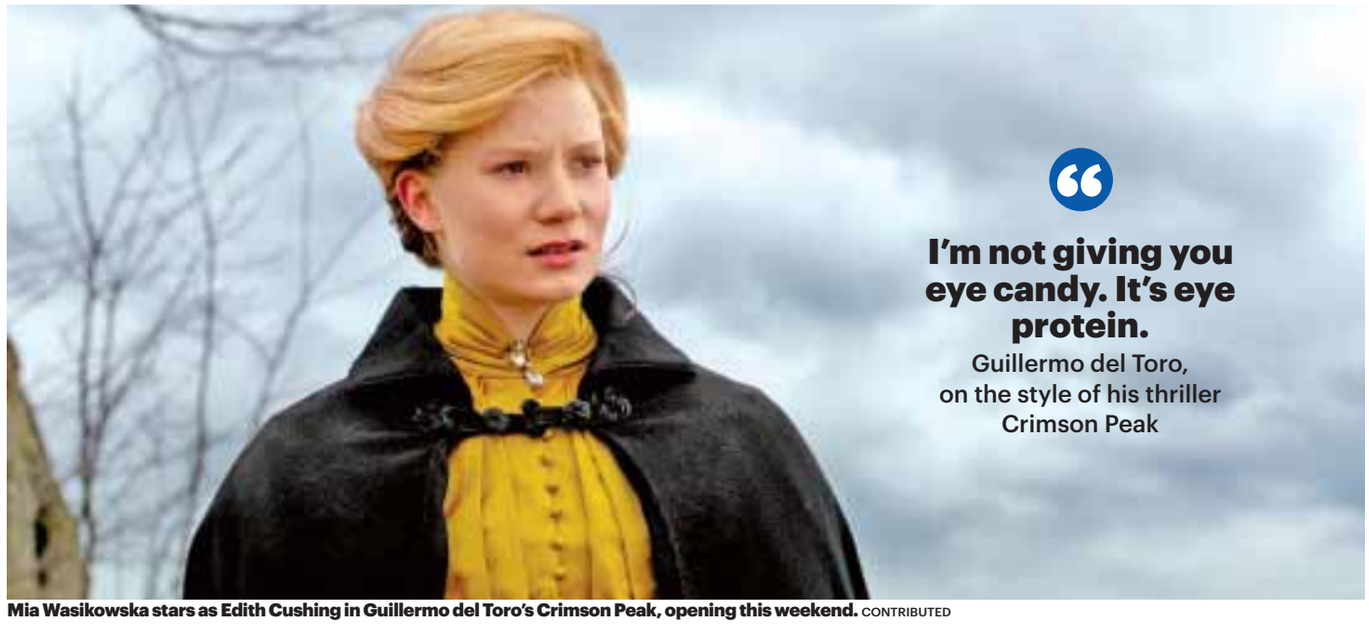
The great films that got away

GUILLERMO DEL TORO

Crimson Peak director has turned down big projects

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



> **I'm not giving you eye candy. It's eye protein.**
> Guillermo del Toro, on the style of his thriller Crimson Peak

Mia Wasikowska stars as Edith Cushing in Guillermo del Toro's Crimson Peak, opening this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

Few modern directors raise the hair on the back of your neck like Guillermo del Toro. From the eerie Pale Man character in Pan's Labyrinth to the deadly mechanical scarab of Cronos, he has trained viewers to expect the unexpected.

His latest, Crimson Peak, is a spooky thriller starring Jessica Chastain, Mia Wasikowska and Tom Hiddleston that del Toro describes as an "almost classical gothic romance ghost story," before adding, "it has two or three scenes that are really, really disturbing in a very, very modern way." Also expect a fest for the eyes. "I'm not giving you eye candy," he says. "It's eye protein."

Films like Pacific Rim, The Devil's Backbone and Hellboy have made del Toro a fan favourite but for every film he makes there is Internet buzz about the movies he didn't make.

"I'm famous for the ones I turned down," he told me a few years ago in a candid conversation on my radio show.

Indeed a quick Google search reveals a list of hit films he said no to.

The script for Se7en came his way but was judged to be too cynical for del Toro's tastes. Horror hits Blade: Trinity and AVP: Alien vs. Predator went to directors David S. Goyer and Paul W.S. Anderson respectively when Guillermo declined because he was too busy getting his version of Hellboy to the screen.

I asked him about that period. "To get Hellboy made you turned down..." "A lot," he said, finishing my sentence.

More recently he walked away from The Hobbit, a decision he called "extremely painful," and took a rain check on Star Wars: Episode VII The Force Awakens because "basically I have so much stuff already of my own, and I'm pursuing stuff that I'm generating already."

One project has kept the del Toro fan base purring for years, a proposed version of Frankenstein.

"This is the one that I pursue and drop. It's daunting. This is the most important story in the history of narrative. The most important book in my life is Frankenstein and the most important movie is James Whale's Frankenstein.

"It's like that girl you have been dating for 35 years and you can't say, 'Would you marry me?' 'I read the book and realized nobody has done the book. It is amazing to me that nobody has done the emotions that are in the book. The way I want to treat the one I do is not to be slavish to the book but create the same effect the book has which is the incredible journey of the creature."

I ask if he has any second thoughts about the films he turned down.

"Every movie I have left behind or not done I don't regret at all but there's one that I can't help but wonder (about), Prisoner of Azkaban. I really loved the books. I don't love all the movies but at that stage I saw the first two movies and they were a little too happy for me. I thought, 'Do I really want to go on and try to change the entire universe like that?'"

The job of directing the third Harry Potter movie eventually went to one of del Toro's friends, Alfonso Cuarón. "When I saw that movie I told Alfonso, 'I love you and I hate you. You made a great movie.' That's the only one that went away that I will always wonder about."

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Beeba Boys	★★★
Freeheld	★★★
Sleeping With Other People	★★

HOW RATING WORKS	
★★★★	SEE IT
★★★	WORTHWHILE
★★	UP TO YOU
★	SKIP IT

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HORROR

Goosebumps

Director: Rob Letterman
Starring: Jack Black, Odeya Rush, Dylan Minnette

Upset about moving from a big city to a small town, a teenager finds a silver lining when he meets the beautiful girl living right next door. But every silver lining has a cloud and Hannah has a mysterious dad.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 79% Audience: 95%

MYSTERY & SUSPENSE

Bridge of Spies

Director: Steven Spielberg
Starring: Tom Hanks, Mark Rylance

Tom Hanks stars as the American attorney tasked with negotiating the release of a U-2 spy plane pilot who was shot down over Russia at the height of the Cold War in this historical drama. Steven Spielberg and Mark E. Platt produce a film written by Matt Charman.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 90% Audience: 98%

HORROR

Crimson Peak

Director: Guillermo del Toro
Starring: Charlie Hunnam, Jessica Chastain

When her heart is stolen by a seductive stranger, a young woman is swept away to a house atop a mountain of blood-red clay: a place filled with secrets that will haunt her forever. Between desire and darkness, between mystery and madness, lies the truth behind Crimson Peak.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 71% Audience: 97%

DRAMA

Beeba Boys

Director: Deepa Mehta
Starring: Sarah Allen, Randeep Hooda

Deepa Mehta mixes guns, bhangra beats, bespoke suits, cocaine and betrayal in Beeba Boys: an adrenaline-charged Indo-Canadian gang war. Gang leader Jeet Johar and his young, loyal, and often-brutal crew dress like peacocks, love attention and openly compete with an old Indo crime syndicate to take over the Vancouver drug and arms scene.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 40% Audience: 95%

MYSTERY & SUSPENSE

99 Homes

Director: Ramin Bahrani
Starring: Andrew Garfield, Michael Shannon

Set amidst the backdrop of the 2008 housing market catastrophe, Dennis Nash, a hard-working and honest man, can't save his family home despite his best efforts. Thrown to the streets with alarming precision by real estate shark Mike Carver, Dennis is given a unique opportunity — to join Carver's crew.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 90% Audience: 83%

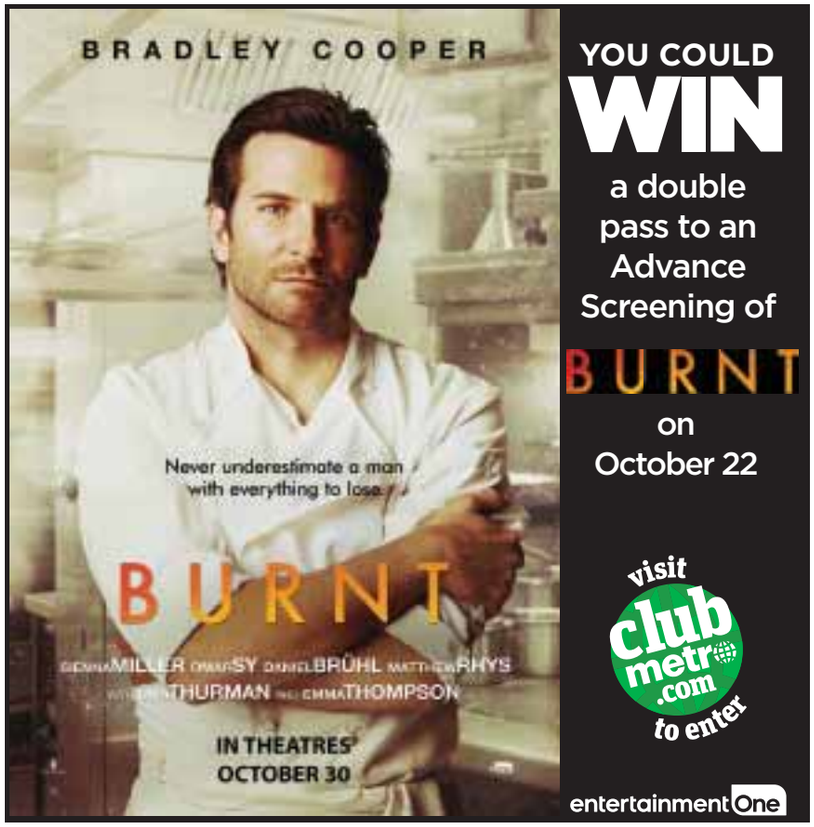
COMEDY

Grandma

Director: Paul Weitz
Starring: Lily Tomlin, Julia Garner

Lily Tomlin stars as Elle who has just gotten through breaking up with her girlfriend when Elle's granddaughter Sage unexpectedly shows up needing $600 before sundown. Temporarily broke, Grandma Elle and Sage spend the day trying to get their hands on the cash as visits to friends and flames end up rattling skeletons.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 93% Audience: 69%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The Ryder psyche

INTERVIEW

Actress talks commune living and The Banality of Evil

Matt Prigge
Metro | New York

Winona Ryder has had her brushes with infamy and trouble, but when we speak, she's gabby and funny, in part because she's really into her new film Experimenter, a semi-experimental biopic about Stanley Milgram (played by Peter Sarsgaard), the psychologist who infamously tested people's willingness to follow orders. Ryder plays Milgram's devoted wife Sasha, though she's not a typical movie spouse. It's a chance to work with Sarsgaard and director Michael Almereyda, both longtime friends.

You had a fairly atypical childhood, growing up on a commune in California...

When I say I lived in a commune for four years, people think I was in a cult. (Laughs) And it was not a cult at all. It was seven families in the Redwoods in Mendocino. But my parents were definitely on the intellectual side of the hippie movement. They were more sort of observers. They were activists and stuff, but it's interesting because in some sort of unconscious rebellion I stayed away from a lot of those things.

Your form of rebellion would be doing the things most people do as rebellion.

I never do yoga. We did it when we were kids. I don't do it now. I probably should. I don't do drugs.

That's odd, since Timothy Leary was your godfather.

He was very protective. He never let anyone do anything around me. He would take me to baseball games, help me do my homework. He was the opposite of what you'd think Timothy Leary was around me.

> **Drugs were not encouraged, but my parents did have the thing of, 'Don't get them on the street.'**
>
> Winona Ryder, on growing up with hippie parents

Growing up, I imagine you were exposed to the stories of and ideas around Stanley Milgram, as well as Philip Zimbardo and Hannah Arendt.

I remember the first time I found out about him. It was from the Peter Gabriel song We Do What We're Told, from the Us alum. I was driving with my dad and I was like, "What does this mean?" And he told me. And I'm a big reader. I've read about The Banality of Evil and about Eichmann, because I lost family in the Holocaust.

BIOPIC

Sarsgaard's experimental role

Peter Sarsgaard has played all sorts of roles, from shy (Shattered Glass) to manic (Green Lantern) to killers (the third season of The Killing). But he says he's closer — in a sense — to Stanley Milgram, the noted and controversial social psychologist he plays in the biopic Experimenter. Milgram's most famous work found himself exploring obedience to authority by having average test subjects administer what they believed were shocks to strangers. In fact, it was all fake. Sarsgaard would never do anything like that, but he did relate to the way Milgram was detached and cerebral.

The film uses unusual techniques. For one, there's old-timey rear-screen projection when people are driving. What were those like for you acting?

I've acted on stage. (Laughs) When you're on stage you're used to a different kind of reality. It's like actors who've acted on green screen. They get used to that. Obviously the most easy to understand form of acting is two people in a room. You don't see the camera and you're having a conversation the way you'd have in life.

It's a heightened reality.

Yeah. Actors typically like doing that kind of thing. This I really enjoyed doing. I'm a cerebral person, but I always knew the film needed something else beyond the ideas that surrounded it. I was really interested in a guy who could be — by everything I read — so dispassionate about what he was observing. This is a guy whose background was a Jew who grew up in New York in the '40s. Certainly some of the experiments of obedience to authority were influenced by what happened in Nazi Germany, for sure. But he never made that absolutely clear. He never said that was the point of his tests. There was never a political agenda. There was the dispassion of a trained scientist. I thought that was interesting to play as an actor.

MATT PRIGGE/METRO NEW YORK

Peter Sarsgaard. GETTY IMAGES

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"BEEBA BOYS BOASTS A WEALTH OF STYLE AND GENUINE SWAGGER THAT MAKES IT MAGNETIZING TO WATCH."
TORONTO FILM SCENE

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Deepa Mehta explores Vancouver's Sikh gangsters

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

A documentary on Vancouver's Sikh gangs inspired Deepa Mehta's film Beeba Boys. HANDOUT

"The whole point of doing work is to surprise yourself and others," says Deepa Mehta. The director of art house hits like Water, Bollywood/Hollywood and Midnight's Children will certainly raise a few eyebrows with her new film Beeba Boys.

The movie is a violent look at a Vancouver gang of second and third generation Indo-Canadian criminals known as the Beeba Boys. It features the first car chase in any of her films and certainly contains more gunplay and violence than any other of her personal, introspective movies.

"I've always been a sucker for gangster films," she says. "Tarantino, eat your heart out."

The Toronto-based Mehta first became aware of Vancouver's Sikh gangs from a CBC documentary. It's a violent culture she says the rest of the country is largely unaware of — "after you cross the Rockies it's like everybody has amnesia about what happens in our own country" — but one that gripped her.

"As a director it is really exciting for me to explore a world I don't know much about. It is a learning process. Exploring this world of Beeba Boys, of gangsters, the search for identity, the desire to be seen, the looking for acceptance is a world that is very familiar to me but the way it is told is completely unfamiliar. That was exciting.

"They're not like the Mafia. They're not at all like the Triads. They're not at all like the Yakuza and they're not like the Hell's Angels. They are very culturally based and I found that fascinating."

Whether it is a period piece or a modern day film, Mehta's work turns the camera on her community and the underpinnings of that culture.

Critics have expressed surprise at Beeba Boys because when you put a gun in somebody's hand in a Deepa Mehta movie that's what draws all the attention.

"I'm just happy they are talking about the film," she says.

"The ones who want to focus on the guns will focus on the guns and that's fine. Each to their own. The ones who know my work and wish to see something that is not just on the surface will see that it is a continuation of my work.

"Thematically it is a continuation of everything I've done because it is a film about identity but the story is different and the story calls for gangsters and of course they are not going to be carrying lollipops in their hands. Let's get real."

INTERVIEW

The story of one Patel seeking another

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

When he was about to turn 30 years old, Ravi Patel kind of freaked out.

Not only did the Hollywood-based Indian-American actor break-up with his longtime girlfriend (which his traditional parents never knew about), but after joining the clan on a trip back to India, he accepted the challenge to find an Indian wife — and as custom states, she must also be a Patel. Captured by his co-directing sister Geeta in Meet the Patels, we caught up with the siblings to talk about Ravi's romantic global journey.

When did you start to begin filming Ravi's journey to find a wife?

Ravi: We had a trip to India and Geeta had just finished her previous documentary (Project Kashmir) and she wanted to learn how to use a camera (and thought) I'll film the family trip.

Geeta: I'm just focusing and learning how to turn the camera on and he's going 'don't you think its weird that mom and dad don't even know about Audrey (and now) they have this date they're trying to set me up on — don't you realize how weird our culture is?'

Ravi: Somewhere we started to see something in there. We didn't know what it was. It was really just fun.

Your parents' personalities really shine through. I love your father's line 'after 35 years, your mother still doesn't know me and you want to know someone in two years?' — which I think really speaks to today's generation.

Ravi: That's another thing about this movie — it's really allowed us to see our parents for how wise they are. Its true, the Western notion of relationships is basically figure out as much as you can — make sure every I is dotted, every T is crossed — once you feel really secure, then lets move forward. And (my dad) is like, no, that's the whole point of a relationship. What you need to do is just get to a point where you both decide you're willing to commit.

Meet the Patels opens in theatres this Friday.

‘The Kanye West of horror’

Jack Black, Dylan Minnette, Ryan Lee and Odeya Rush star in Columbia Pictures’ Goosebumps. Black plays the creator of the series with a lot of self-regard and bravado. HANDOUT

I am a bit of a recluse. I can relate to that part of Stine’s personality.
Jack Black

INTERVIEW

Jack Black talks playing R.L. Stine in Goosebumps

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

Before we begin our interview, Jack Black lets it be known he’ll be doing it fully reclining on a long stretch of sofa, staring at the ceiling.

“This is awkward, but it’s the way it has to be,” he explains.

Black may be a bit exhausted from his work as a fictionalized version of author R.L. Stine in Goosebumps, an egomaniacal, reclusive author whose devilish creations come to life and run amok on a small Delaware town.

What do you think about the idea of being a recluse? Ever been tempted?
I am a bit of a recluse. I can relate to that part of Stine’s personality.

There’s part of that that just comes with the territory. You get in your Hollywood bubble and you try not to leave because you don’t want to have selfies and autographs. So yeah, I get it.

But you’ve never gone full-on Howard Hughes?
No. I don’t have those kinds of demons inside of me. At least not yet. Give me time.

I’ll be bottling my piss in a few decades, I’m sure. If I live that long.

You’re working with a lot of monsters who are not actually physically there.
Yeah, lots of special effects monsters and computer-generated animation.

Aside from King Kong, how much experience had you had with that?
Well, that’s all I needed. King Kong was the king of all special effects movies. It wasn’t just King Kong that I was pretending to see, it was thousands of prehistoric insects and lizards all over the place. You just had to imagine the whole movie. Every shot of King Kong had a special effect in it. It was mind-boggling.

So this was kind of easy in comparison. I was primed and ready.

There are not as many special effects in this one, is what you’re saying.
I mean, there’s tons in this movie, too. Those big set pieces are amazingly good, especially when you consider the difference in budget between this and King Kong, which was probably three times as expensive.

Rob Letterman is a wizard. He knows that world so well, and he picked his moments wisely where to spend the money, you know?

You’re playing this at a particular level of bigness. How do you decide for each role how big to get?
I don’t really think about the size of the dramatic levels.

I mean, yeah, there’s giant creatures all over the place and the world is fantastical, so you can get away with a little more bombast and high drama in your performance, I suppose, but I was really just thinking about this character who is the genius writer who has these dark secrets and dark demons that he keeps hidden from the world. And for some reason that just said Orson Welles to me.

That seemed like the perfect person to model it after, so I watched Citizen Kane 30 times and then went to the set.

Did you discover anything about Citizen Kane you never noticed before?
That it’s a f—ing great movie. That’s no newsflash, though. Everybody says it’s the best movie ever made. I discovered that Jack White has covered two songs from the movie.

I can’t remember which songs exactly, but Google “Jack White Citizen Kane” and you’ll see.

Orson Welles aside, I did feel a lot of Tenacious D in this performance, that particular bravado and self-regard.
Right! Yes! I didn’t think about that, but there was a narcissism there that was consistent with Tenacious D.

He’s the Kanye West of horror.

Had you read the books?
No, I didn’t. I just read the script and flipped over that, and for that reason I don’t think there’s any need to have read the books to enjoy the movie.

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TV SABOTAGE

Street artists word bomb walls of Homeland set

Graffiti artists hired to work on the set of Homeland duped the popular series, painting Arabic slogans criticizing the show on walls seen in the background.

In the episode aired in the U.S. Sunday, star Claire Danes can be seen walking by slogans including "Homeland is racist."

Berlin graffiti artist Stone told The Associated Press that he and two friends initially weren't going to take the job, but then decided instead to use it to express their opinions of Homeland.

The caper was pulled off so well that even Homeland producer Alex Gansa gave the artists his grudging respect. "We wish we'd caught these images before they made it to air," he said. "However, as Homeland always strives to be subversive in its own right and a stimulus for conversation, we can't help but admire this act of artistic sabotage." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

If you believe the movies, a political campaign is as bad for a person's diet as it is for their moral character

We've been hit by election fever. I'm not talking about the 850,000 Canadians who cast their votes on the first day of advance polls — a 90 per cent increase from 2008's federal election. I'm referring to my couch, where for the last couple of weeks my partner Simon and I watched election-themed movies.

Three of these films, Wag the Dog, Primary Colors and Bulworth, hit theatres in 1998, while the fourth, The Candidate, came out in '72. They all reflect their time's dissatisfaction with political culture and how the campaigning process erodes their values — the '98 trio with dark, sardonic comedy and The Candidate with hardly any humour at all.

There is only one singular common denominator, however, that serves this column: the food. It seems that candidates, at least fictional American ones, eat like crap. The travel and grind of campaigning means buckets of chicken, cold pizza, plates of barbecued ribs and Krispy Kreme doughnuts.

I've never seen Simon more devoted to this column than when he argued that we should eat KFC, for "research." I ate it often growing up, not so much the chicken as plates of their French fries covered in gravy and mixed up with their neon green coleslaw; a combination that I think would be my death row meal. Since I feared it wouldn't live up to my grease-tinted nostalgia — and having just survived a gluttonous Thanksgiving weekend — I refused.

THE MOVIE: Primary Colors

THE MEAL: Krispy Kremes

But I caved on his request for the Krispy Kremes. We drove to an outpost on Monday night and picked up half a dozen of the classic glazed variety. While he ate five and I ate one, I wondered if, when the cameras weren't rolling, Harper, Trudeau, Mulcair and May have made doughnut pitstops during their federal election campaigning.

I hope they didn't, because it seems as though — if you believe the movies — that a campaign is as bad for a person's diet as it is for their moral character. Not once did we stumble across a film where an election bolsters a person's character, provides nourishment for the values of the great democracies they seek to serve, or paints anyone as being immune to the corrupting pull of power. "This is the price you pay to lead," John Travolta as Jack Stanton as Bill Clinton, says in Primary Colors — the best election film we watched. "You don't think Lincoln was a whore before he was president? He had to tell his stories and smile his back-country grin. He did that so one day he'd have the opportunity to stand before the nation and appeal to our better nature. That's where the bullshit stops."

On Oct. 19, voters head to the polls and, in true Canadian fashion, we decided to watch American movies about American elections and American politicians — although our federal election has had its fair share of Hollywood-like scandalous moments: The Conservative MP who pulled out of the race after a video surfaced of him peeing into a mug; the Liberal MP who pulled out after old, offensive tweets were dug up; and Alex Johnstone, the NDP candidate — and a school trustee no less — who confessed she'd only just learned what Auschwitz was.

But nothing as salacious as Donald Trump or Ben Carson, whose comments about the Nazis make Johnstone's seem positively enlightened.

God bless Canada.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

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READY TO PARTY

The longest federal election campaign in Canadian history is finally nearing its close. Celebrate the winners, the losers, the haircuts — and most importantly, the end!

Where every big cheese is a winner

Devon Scoble
For Metro Canada

Politicians come and go, and no matter who wins the top prize on Monday night, they'll likely disappoint us at some point.

But a well-executed cheeseboard (and a good selection of wine and beer to wash it down) always delivers.

Just ask Shawn Rusich, founder and director of Butter Public Relations, a boutique PR firm focused on food, hospitality, and lifestyle clients.

He's spent the last 15 years working with some of the industry's top professionals, including Martha Stewart, Giada de Laurentiis and Mario Batali, and he's shared his tips for hosting a winning election results party.

Follow Rusich's suggestions for a politically inspired cheeseboard that sets a light mood and encourages cheesy humour:

For the Conservatives

"Like any blue cheese, the Conservative Party has become something of an acquired taste in recent years," says Rusich. If you're not a fan, even a little will leave a bad taste in your mouth. The Cons don't support proportional representation, but it's essential for a democratic cheeseboard, so grab a big chunk of **Bleu Bénédictin**. "It's arguably Canada's most famous blue cheese," he says, "and it crumbles as easily as the Conservatives' approval rating!"

Pair it with: A late-harvest **Riesling** or your favourite ice wine.

For the Liberals

"Canada's oldest political party deserves a mature cheese — preferably one with a little sex appeal, like its floppy haired leader," says Rusich. **Bothwell Red Wine Extra Old Cheddar** is a celebratory choice that reflects the Grits' recent gains in the polls.

Pair it with: A bold **Cab Sauv** from Niagara.

For the NDP

Once-upon-a-federal-election, Rusich would have suggested a strong, unique "love-or-hate type of cheese" with an orange rind, like OKA Classique. But for Mulcair's NDP, he suggests "a more palatable **OKA Light**" with 30 per cent less fat.

Pair it with: An unoaked **Chardonnay**.

For the Greens

"We can all agree that Elizabeth May has helped the Green Party appear less hippy dippy and more multi-platform than ever thought before," says Rusich. "We can also all agree that it's still a grassroots underdog." **Farm House Heidi** is a Gruyere-like cheese with rich flavour and a pleasantly grassy taste that comes from May's home province, B.C.

Pair it with: A dark and heavy stout, like **Mill Street's Oatmeal Stout**.

For the Bloc Québécois

"**Laliberté** is a Canadian Grand Prix of Cheese winner, and a creamy companion to any cheese board," says Rusich. "In fact, it's so good it might be best to separate it from the rest of your election-themed cheeses — to protect its unique and independent identity, of course."

Pair it with: A bubbly, like **Henry of Pelham's Cuvée Catharine Rosé Brut**.

For the undecided

Bummed that your favourite party lost? Sad about our first-past-the-post system? Disappointed in yourself for not casting a ballot at all? Canadian elections leave plenty of room for disappointment, but there is a homegrown (temporary) cure for your electoral woes, and you don't have to wait for the next campaign to try it: whisky. Rusich recommends **Tap 357 Maple Whisky** to soften the political blows.

Pair it with: Bitter tears.

SET THE MOOD

Election night fever

Whether incoming results have you feeling Helpless or make you want to Rant and Roar, Rusich suggests a playlist with the best of Canadiana on repeat. Opt for gentle lighting. "create a relaxing atmosphere," says Rusich, "because nothing gets people more fired up than politics!"

It's fun asking guests to accessorize with the colours of their preferred party, or to play election prediction games with Oscars-style scorecards says Rusich, but don't push for specifics. "Voting can be very a personal choice for some and they may feel uncomfortable divulging (their) decisions in a room full of people."

DEVON SCOBLE

DRESS UP FOR THE NONPARTISAN Don't want to wear your political colours on your sleeve? Two moments from the 2015 election standout as possible party night themes.

In August, a group of Boy Scouts stole the show at a campaign event for Conservative Leader Stephen Harper in Campbell River, B.C. To get the look, pair green, tan or black shirts or slacks with either a striped or a solid red or orange neck scarf.

For those looking to stay more relaxed, there is always the meme-inspiring bathrobe guy, who was spotted in the background of a heated exchange between the head of a private men's club in Toronto and Liberal candidate Chrystia Freeland, also in August. PHOTOS: CANADIAN PRESS AND JESSICA SMITH

ELECTION WHERE TO STAY INFORMED

On television
• Catch election coverage on the major TV networks.

Online
• Follow election night coverage at metronews.ca. On Twitter, The @Canadaland crew will tweet from the Monarch Tavern's Election Night Party in Toronto.

Social media
• Metro will be posting election selfies to our Instagram account, metronewsca. And don't forget Sluts Against Harper is a saucy account that promises to send nude selfies to anyone who can prove they've voted. Find them on Instagram at @votes4nudes.

DEVON SCOBLE AND METRO

UPDATE

$75,000 brothel stay probed

Authorities are retracing Lamar Odom's $75,000 visit to the brothel where he was found unconscious as the former NBA and reality TV star remains hospitalized and the Kardashians spar with the brothel owner over media attention surrounding the ordeal.

There's been no official word on Odom's condition, but the Rev. Jesse Jackson visited him Wednesday and said he's on life support.

Nye County law enforcement and brothel officials said Odom's incident was a rarity for the Love Ranch, in the rural community of Crystal, and have summed it up as a possible drug-related medical episode.

"We're going to be looking at the entire situation, how he actually came to be where he is now," Nye County Sheriff Sharon Wehrly said at a Wednesday news conference.

Odom was found unconscious at the brothel Tuesday with white and reddish substances coming from his nose and mouth. His breathing was consistent, but he seemed to be in a deep sleep-like state, Hunter said. He was to be flown by helicopter about 130 km southeast to Las Vegas but had to be taken by ambulance because he couldn't fit into the aircraft.

Authorities took a blood sample from Odom to find out if he overdosed on drugs or alcohol, but the results could take several weeks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A reality TV relationship that had no shortage of drama

Khloe Kardashian and Lamar Odom in happier times in 2009. Inset: Kylie Jenner, second from left, Kourtney Kardashian and Kim Kardashian exit through a back door after visiting Odom in hospital on Thursday. CHRIS PIZZELLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE; INSET: DAVID BECKER/GETTY IMAGES

KHLOE AND LAMAR

Their marriage fell short, but she's by his hospital bedside

Khloe Kardashian was a reality TV star. Lamar Odom was a star athlete. Their whirlwind romance was tailor-made for titillation.

They met at a party and, within four weeks, went from giddy lovers to newlyweds, with their wedding showcased in 2009 on Keeping Up with the Kardashians. Four years and a spinoff reality show later, they were headed to a divorce that she instigated.

The relationship, hatched in the glittery wealth and designer-label cocoon of the family's E! television series, became shadowed by his problems and her unhappiness.

But Kardashian, who has said that she never stopped caring, rushed to the hospitalized Odom's side after he was found unconscious at a Nevada brothel. And, with their divorce not completed, she may yet hold decisions about his medical care in her hands: Nevada law gives a spouse top decision-making power when a patient is incapacitated.

Though the divorce proceedings plodded along, Kardashian never really let go. Odom and their failed relationship, and what she considers his failings, "will weigh on me for the rest of my life," she said on Keeping Up last season.

"That wasn't what I wanted, so for the rest of my life I'm going to deal with that and worry about him and think about him and want just to protect him," she said.

Initially, however, it was the couple's playfulness that was strenuously on display in Khloe & Lamar, which launched in 2011 and aired for two seasons.

But frustrations set in. They were unable to conceive a child, something that apparently weighed on both of them. Instead, they produced a perfume called Unbreakable Bond.

Their marriage became increasingly defined by his personal and career woes. His NBA career, which included winning two championship seasons with the Los Angeles Lakers, was crumbling. A 2011 trade to the Dallas Mavericks left him depressed, and a stint with the Clippers proved the end of his NBA career.

A month later, he was arrested for investigation of drunken driving in Los Angeles, later pleading no contest and receiving three years' probation.

And on an episode of Keeping Up that aired last season. Kardashian told Brody Jenner she was keeping a painful secret of infidelity to herself.

"No one knew until he got so sloppy and started messing with all those girls and all those girls want to do is their 10 seconds of fame. I can't really talk about it. I'm going to start crying," she said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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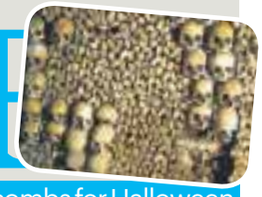


Airbnb competition offers night for two in Paris Catacombs for Halloween

Road-tripping up the beach

OUTER BANKS

Fall the perfect time to visit this giant sandbar in the sea

Vawn Himmelsbach
For Metro Canada

There's really no bad time to visit the Outer Banks in North Carolina, but the shoulder seasons offer summer-like temperatures (at least from a Canadian perspective) without all the summer crowds.

One of the best ways to experience this giant sandbar in the Atlantic Ocean is road-tripping "up the beach," stopping along the way to hike, bike, kayak, surf or hang-glide.

The Outer Banks is a chain of barrier islands linked by coastal highway NC12, home to some of the largest tracts of undeveloped beaches in the country. That means no hotels, resorts, restaurants, shops or hawkers lining the beach — just sand and sea.

The four islands, collectively known as OBX, are home to half a dozen national and state parks, with six towns and 12 coastal villages to explore. On the eastern side, you'll find sand dunes and the pounding surf of the Atlantic Ocean — perfect for surfing. On the west side, you'll find the Sounds, with calmer water ideal for sea kayaking and windsurfing.

Getting there

Fly into Raleigh and rent a car (make arrangements to drop off the car at the airport in Norfolk, Va., if you don't want to backtrack). It's a two-hour drive from the airport to Little Washington, one of America's coolest small towns and worth a stop for the night; it's another two hours to the Swan Quarter ferry (book a spot in advance), which will drop you off in Ocracoke at the southern tip of the Outer Banks.

An aerial view of the beach at Ocracoke in North Carolina. The Outer Banks is an ideal fall destination for outdoors activities such as kiteboarding and hang gliding. VISIT N.C.

Ocracoke

Ocracoke Island offers a 16-mile-long stretch of beach along the Atlantic Ocean — all part of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. It's perfect for water sports; take surf lessons with Ride the Wind (which also offers paddleboard yoga). Or head over to the Sounds for sea kayaking (Ride the Wind Kayak Trips offers guided full moon tours). In town, hike or bike out to Springer's Point through centuries-old oak trees dripping with moss, to the beach where the infamous pirate Blackbeard was beheaded in a bloody battle.

The village of Ocracoke has a laid-back, island vibe, and locals are proud of the fact there are no chains here; all the shops and restaurants are locally owned. Explore this quirky town on foot or by bike, and stay in a restored island cottage or cozy B&B (like The Cove, which offers beach chairs and bikes). You can also camp outside of town; the Ocracoke Campground is located beside the dunes, across the road from the Hammock Hills Nature Trail.

Hatteras

Drive up the beach until you reach the northern tip of the island, where you'll catch the ferry to Hatteras Island (it's free, and takes about an hour). The further north you drive, the more developed it gets. But, like Ocracoke, there's an array of outdoor adventure companies here offering everything from windsurfing to surf fishing.

Work those glutes by climbing the striped Cape Hatteras Lighthouse — the tallest beacon in North America at 210 feet — at night, under a full moon. Or go on a trail ride through maritime forest and along the seashore with Equine Adventures.

Rest up at the Inn on Pamlico Sound, a European-style boutique hotel with coastal charm, which offers sweeping views of the Pamlico Sound. Head down to the dock and learn to kiteboard, wakeboard, windsurf or stand-up paddleboard. If you're experienced, you're welcome to bring your own equipment and use on-site storage.

Kitty Hawk and Duck

As you drive up the beach, stop along the way for a swim or explore a nature trail. Once you reach Kitty Hawk, take a hang-gliding lesson — after all, the wind and sand brought Wilbur and Orville Wright here, where they achieved the first successful airplane flight in 1903 (there's a Wright Brothers National Memorial along NC12).

Take a lesson with Kitty Hawk Kites in Jockey's Ridge State Park, where you'll hang-glide down the face of the tallest sand dunes on the East Coast. There's also kite flying, hiking and picnic facilities in this 426-acre park.

Treat yourself to a stay at the Sanderling Resort in Duck, with views of both the Atlantic Ocean and Currituck Sound — which means you can watch the sunrise and sunset over water. With touches like a tranquility pool and evening s'more bonfires, and serving up coastal cuisine in a former life-saving station, it's a great way to wrap up your road trip in style (and rest your aching muscles).

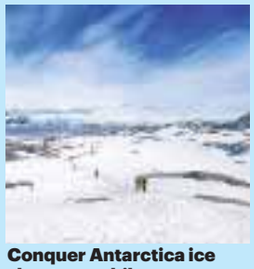
From here, it's a two-hour drive to Norfolk, where you'll leave the crashing waves behind for … traffic, crowds and concrete.

WELCOME

After this month's historic rains, neighbouring South Carolina is mounting media campaigns to let visitors know tourist destinations are open, as are the roads leading to the coast.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRAVEL NOTES ICY TRAILS, TRENDING WHIMS AND HOLY SITES

Extreme cycling
Toronto-based TDA Global Cycling just announced the world's first cycle tour in Antarctica. Guests fly from Argentina over the Drake Passage, then to the last degree of latitude to start a seven-day, fat-bike ride to the South Pole. Training camp starts this February at Lake Winnipeg. The cost? A drop in the bucket, at $90,000+. Visit TDAGlobalCycling.com.

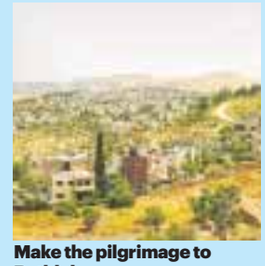


Conquer Antarctica ice sheets on a bike. TIM STEWART

Planning trend
How last-minutey are you? Quite a lot, according to a recent travel trend report that stated more than a third of travellers these days book not just short hops but full holidays up to only three days in advance. This trend has been linked to how easy it is to book flights and hotels on your phone and tablet. Sorry, planners. You're just not spontaneous enough.

Last-minute travel gains ground. KATE SERBIN

Bucket list: Bethlehem
Pushed and pulled, destroyed and rebuilt, this Palestinian city of 25,000 in the West Bank is visited by two million people each year. Fill your days with visits to Christian, Muslim and Jewish holy sites, plus monasteries, museums and markets. Fall or spring is the best time to go, when the heat isn't stifling and crowds are thin. Visit travelpalestine.ps.
DOUG WALLACE



Make the pilgrimage to Bethlehem. CONTRIBUTED

See dresses that impress in ATL

NEW EXHIBITION

Fashion museum opens with Oscar de la Renta tribute

A new museum focusing on international fashion has opened in Atlanta.

The first exhibition at SCAD FASH features more than 80 Oscar de la Renta designs and opened to the public this month on the Atlanta campus of the Savannah College of Art and Design. The pieces come from the school's permanent collection and donations from collectors and celebrities who worked with de la Renta before his death in 2014.

De la Renta was a frequent donor to SCAD's collections and the natural choice for the opening, said Laurie Ann Farrell, executive director of museums and exhibitions and curator of the showing. She hopes visitors whether casual observer or devoted student will learn something about design.

"Everybody selects their clothes as one way of signifying their identity," Farrell said. "Even if somebody doesn't consider themselves a fashion aficionado, I think they can come in and be inspired by what different designers have done through the years."

The pieces on display in Atlanta until Dec. 31 cover decades of work, from a 1965 black cashmere dress with a white satin collar and waist bow to a silk colour-block gown designed by creative director Peter Copping for fall 2015 and worn at the Emmy awards by actress Maggie Gyllenhaal.

80

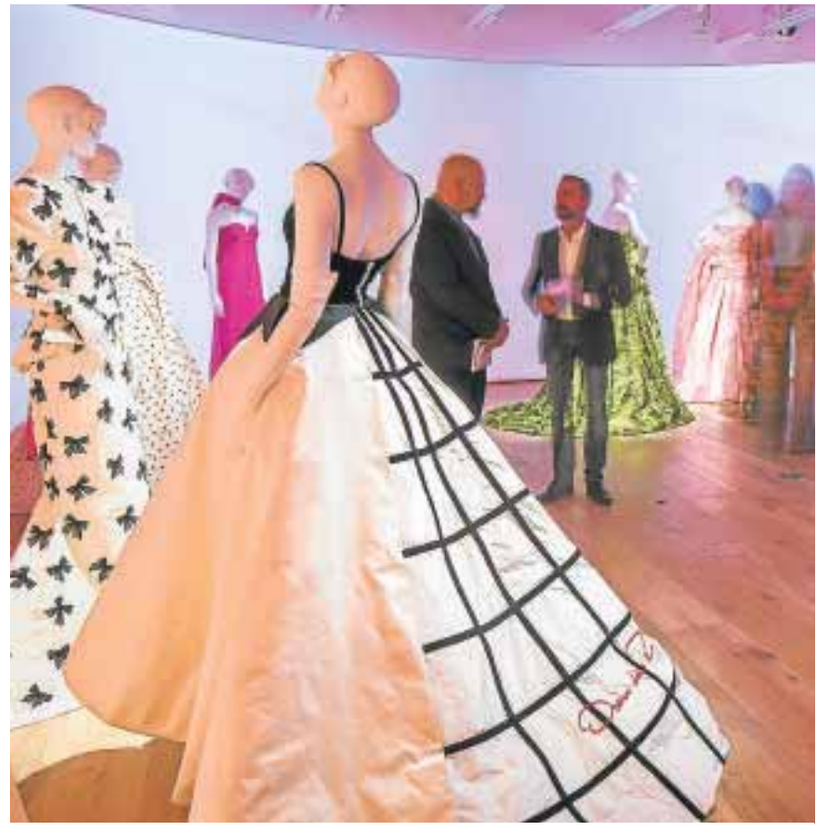
The exhibition shows more than 80 designs by de la Renta, including gowns worn by Taylor Swift, Laura Bush and Oprah.

Student-docents hold iPads with information about each garment as they guide visitors through the 10,000-square-foot space, winding through curved galleries and small rooms featuring a source of inspiration for the designer. A white, mirrored room contains romantic wedding gowns and a silk-patterned dress inspired by Marie Antoinette while a nearby platform holds a gathering of black and red flamenco-inspired garments with dramatic ruffles and other flourishes.

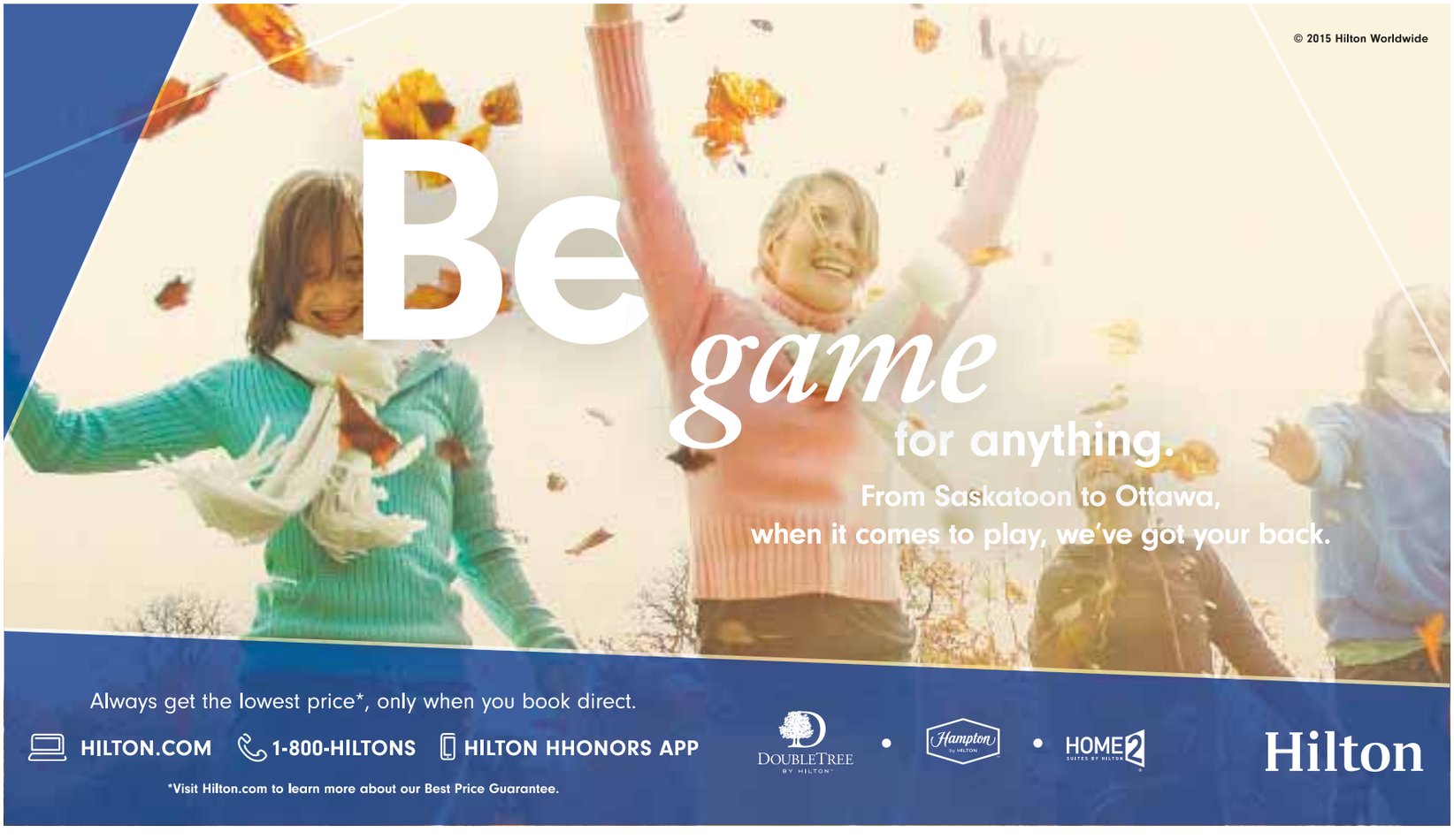
The museum gallery opens up to a film salon holding cushioned ottomans and sofas facing a 90-inch screen surrounded by backlit bookshelves. SCAD also plans to hold showings and lectures either connected or not to the clothing exhibits.

"Designers are artists," Farrell said. "As a visual experience alone, I think people can walk away with a deeper understanding of how a house evolves over time but maintains that classic elegance."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Sarah Jessica Parker wore this Oscar de la Renta black-and-white gown with a criss-cross design on the back to the 2014 Met Gala. SCAD VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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Hotels sure to pique any appetite

ON THE MOVE

Semi-private dining, diverse cultural dishes to be found

Loren Christie
For Metro Canada

Travellers in search of great culinary destinations have to look no further than where they lay their head. Hotels across the country are ready to give you not only a great sleep but to tantalize your taste buds.

Savoury at the Westin Harbour Castle in Toronto is a 10-person restaurant adjacent to the busy kitchen. CONTRIBUTED

Intimate dining

Toronto's Westin Harbour Castle is home to celebrity chef Corbin Tomaszeski. The host of popular Food Network shows Dinner Party Wars, Restaurant Makeover and Restaurant Takeover, Chef Corbin has made this waterfront hotel the place to stay for foodies.

Not only has he added his unique flair to the restaurants' wellness-inspired menus, but the chef has also carved out a section of the busy kitchen for Savoury, a secluded, one-of-a-kind 10-person restaurant. The semi-private location offers small groups of diners a five-course meal in an intimate and VIP setting. Dinner can be booked with one of the hotel's chefs or booked with Chef Corbin himself to discuss the preparation methods, cooking techniques, as well as the origins of the dishes. Wine pairings are also available.

Hip hangout

Located in the heart of downtown Calgary, Hotel Arts is a full-service 185-room designer boutique-style hotel that opened its doors 10 years ago.

The vibe is hip and totally sexy — the kind of place where you walk in and realize you are staying with all the fun good-looking people.

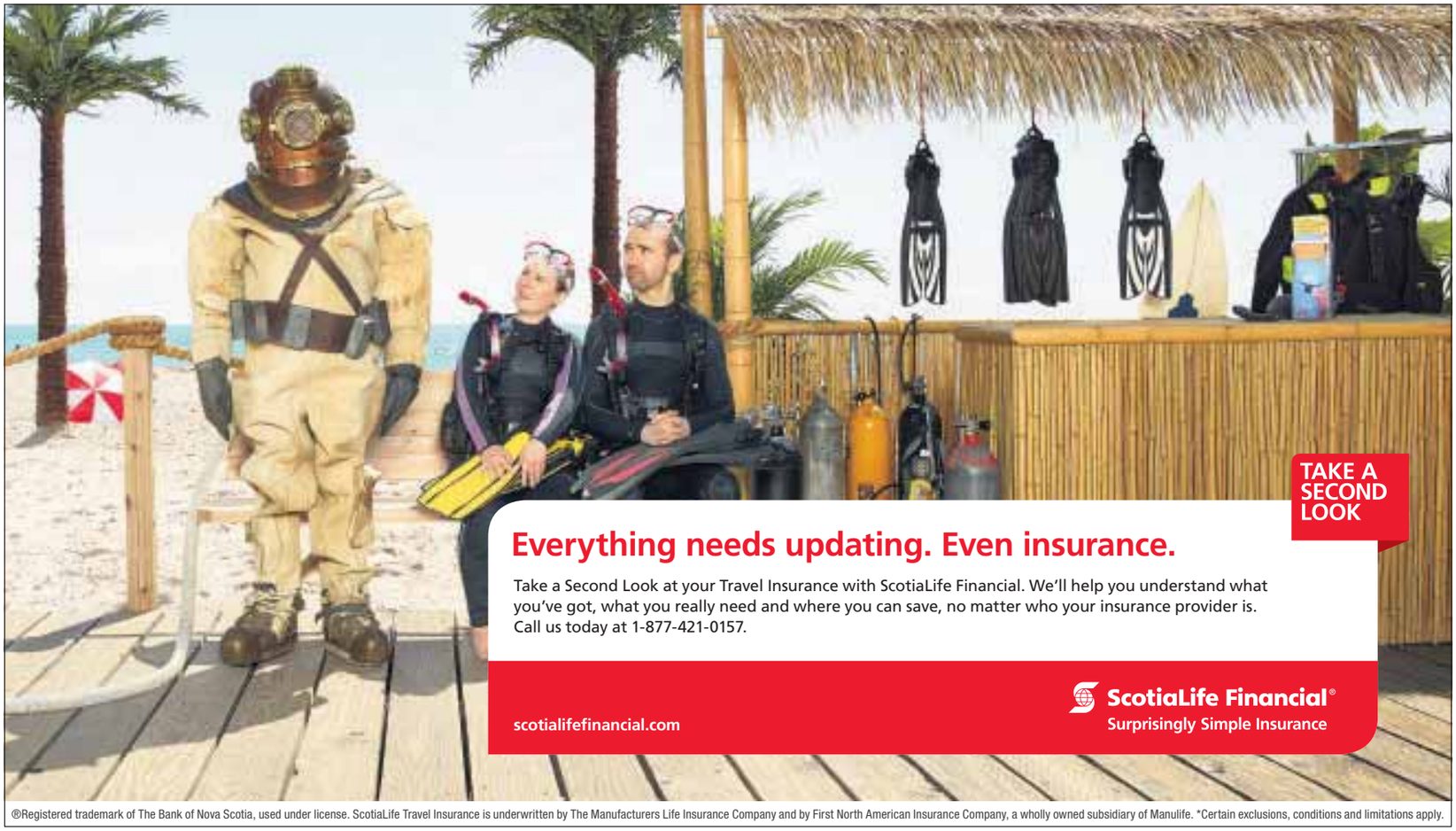
However, the real gems of the hotel are the trend-setting restaurants, which have seen local superstars like chefs Duncan Ly and Karine Moulin pass through their pantries. Together with current executive chef Jan Hansen, they have elevated this hotel to a foodie paradise.

My breakfast at the Yellow Door Bistro included Yellow Door Hash made with duck confit, soft poached eggs, roasted peppers, potatoes and Dijon sabayon. A rotation of incredible daily dishes ensures no buffet fatigue; the strawberry mint pancakes were to die for.

Locally influenced

Montreal's Hotel Le Crystal is a five-star all-suite hotel on Rue de la Montagne, two blocks from the Bell Centre and a pleasant walk to shopping on Rue Ste. Catherine.

A quick look at the menu of the hotel's La Coupole restaurant and you notice something different: from sturgeon and deer pancetta to arctic char and red elk. Using only products from local farmers and artisans the dishes reflect the old-fashioned cooking of the families who built Quebec, First Nations' traditional dishes and a dash of the immigrant cultures that shaped the province's culinary heritage. I had the crème brûlée with maple duck foie gras and the pork cheek confit. D-e-l-i-c-i-o-u-s.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Your essential daily news

Eugenie Bouchard is suing the U.S. Tennis Association after slipping in a locker room during the U.S. Open

Rookie's first goal leads Penguins past Senators

NHL

Malkin ends drought by scoring after seven months

Daniel Sprong watched the puck sail past Ottawa goaltender Craig Anderson and into the net. And for a brief second, the 18-year-old who made the Pittsburgh Penguins out of training camp with his energetic play decided to finally act his age.

The rookie forward raised his arms in triumph, saw the nearest pane of glass and did a vertical belly flop in celebration.

"I didn't know what I was going to do," Sprong said. "I saw the glass close by and decided to jump on it."

Sprong's first NHL goal provided the emotional high point of a 2-0 win over the Senators on Thursday. Evgeni Malkin picked up his first goal in seven months and Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 22 shots for his 39th career shutout, as the Penguins put a decisive halt to the franchise's worst start in a decade.

"I don't think we had a full consistent game and tonight it felt really good from the start until the end," Fleury said.

Anderson made 34 saves, but the Senators failed to muster significant momentum a night after dropping seven goals on Columbus. Ottawa went 0-for-3 on the power play and rarely tested Fleury over the final two periods, as the Senators lost on the road for the first time in four tries.

"I thought we were a little flat," Ottawa defenceman Marc Methot said.

"There's only so much you can do when you don't have the legs beneath you."

The Penguins came in scuffling after the franchise's worst start in a decade, managing all of three goals during an 0-3 stretch that left their stars frustrated and head coach Mike Johnston imploring them - again — to shoot the puck more often.

Pittsburgh's Patric Hornqvist, left, looks for a rebound on a shot by David Perron, bottom right.
GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RESULTS

Capitals 4, Blackhawks 1
Islanders 4, Predators 3
Panthers 3, Sabres 2
Stars 5, Lightning 3
Canadiens 3, Rangers 0

THURSDAY in Pittsburgh

2	0
PENGUINS	SENATORS

For a night anyway, the message appeared to get through.

Fresh after being given a day off and facing a team that must have gotten weary celebrating so often during a 7-3 dismantling of the Blue Jackets the night before, Pittsburgh wasted little time, playing with the kind of tempo it lacked for much of the first week of the season.

The Penguins sent 16 pucks at Anderson during the opening 20 minutes. None found the back of the net but the string of consistently aggressive shifts built momentum that finally crested with the team's first lead of the year. Malkin took a lead pass from Patric Hornqvist and beat Anderson with a wrist shot from just inside the right circle 23 seconds into the second period for his first goal since March 6.

"I not score goal in long time, obviously last season, too, I not score playoffs," Malkin said. "It's a little bit pressure on myself, too. It's easy when you score and you have more confidence out there."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

AHL

Moose home but Reign just too good

Just 25 days after the previous incarnation of the Manitoba Moose played their final game at MTS Centre — a playoff matchup on May 6, 2011 — the announcement came that NHL hockey was returning to Winnipeg. And nearly 4-1/2 years later the Moose, too, came home to a loyal fan base on Thursday night, now donning double-blue.

Patrice Cormier scored Manitoba's only goal of the night as the Moose fell 4-1 to the Ontario Reign in front of 8,812 at a sold-out MTS Centre.

Now the Winnipeg Jets' farm club, the "Baby Jets," as they are affectionately referred, had their work cut out for them in facing the Reign. The California-based affiliate of the Los Angeles Kings showed exactly why they are the defending Calder Cup champions — known last season as the Manchester Monarchs — holding the Moose to just 10 shots on goal through the first 44 minutes of the game.

It will likely be a season of growth for a very young Moose team that is littered with first and second-year pros and prospects, with one of those players being goaltender Connor Hellebuyck.

The Moose (0-2-0-1), still in search of their first victory of the season, finish their two-game set with the Reign on Saturday night at MTS Centre.

DARRIN BAUMING/FOR METRO

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You can't sweep this issue away

CURLING

Some players feel directional fabric brooms change sport

An unprecedented leap in sweeping technology threatens to dramatically change the sport of curling.

While they wait for their sport's governing bodies to catch up and impose new rules, some of the world's top curling teams say they won't use broomheads that can actually slow down, and change the direction of, a rock in motion. It's an awkward position to take for the teams who are sponsored by the very equipment manufacturers who produce the controversial brushes.

But Olympic gold medallists Brad Jacobs and Brad Gushue and former world champion Glenn Howard are among 22 domestic and international teams who signed a statement stating they will not sweep with brooms that have "directional fabric."

Brad Jacobs has vowed not to use new-fangled brooms. LEON NEAL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

"Where do you draw the line?" Jacobs asked. "We've decided, as a group of players, to draw the line right now. It's about the integrity of the game and the hard work of teams."

When a new gadget fundamentally alters a sport, the powers that be often step in and declare it illegal in competition. Curling's top teams aren't waiting for the World Curling Federation or Curling Canada and are policing themselves. They hope other teams follow suit.

The curler throwing the rock aims for the skip's broom with the knowledge the stone will curl as it approaches the house.

Powerful sweepers can "hold" the stone and delay its curl or "drag" it extra distance into the house, but throwing accuracy and the skip's line calling are still paramount in the game.

New brushes hitting the market recently changed all that.

"It's a type of fabric that allows you to virtually steer the rock," Howard said. "Up until 18 months ago, it was 80 per cent shooter, 20 per cent sweeping and now in the last year and a half, it's become 20 per cent shooting and 80 per cent sweeping. It's just not acceptable. The problem is there's no rule against it right now. It's not as if you're cheating. It just doesn't seem right." THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL SAINTS LOOK TO SHOOT DOWN FALCONS Atlanta Falcons running back Devonta Freeman, left, is hit by New Orleans Saints linebacker Stephone Anthony in the first quarter. The Saints led 14-7 in the 2nd quarter. For the result of this game go to metronews.ca. GERALD HERBERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL BOMBERS VS. REDBLACKS PREVIEW

The Ottawa Redblacks have one mindset as they prepare for their game against the Winnipeg Blue Bombers — win and we're in.

An Ottawa CFL team hasn't qualified for the post-season since 1994, when the Rough Riders lost 26-16 to the Blue Bombers in the East semi-final. That could change Friday when the Redblacks (8-6) host Winnipeg (5-10), with a win clinching a playoff spot for Ottawa.

For the first time in nearly a month, the Redblacks will be the better rested team. The Bombers last played five days ago, while Ottawa has had nine days off after a stretch of three home games in 11 days. Last week the Winnipeg defence gave up over 300 yards and three touchdowns.

The Redblacks also struggled defensively in its last outing giving up five touchdowns, including the game winner in the final minute of play as Toronto defeated Ottawa 38-35. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOCKEY

Coaches seem to like new challenge option

Throughout Jonathan Bernier's career, referees have skated to him and apologized for missing a goaltender interference call in a previous game. He gets it.

"That's just part of hockey," the Toronto Maple Leafs goaltender said.

"It's such a fast game, and they can't be in great position all the time."

In the first game under the NHL's new coach's challenge system for goaltender interference and offside situations, Montreal Canadiens forward Tomas Plekanec interfered with Bernier.

> **Ideally, if it can help us, let's do it.**
> Toronto Maple Leafs coach Mike Babcock

Some quick work from Leafs assistant Andrew Brewer led to coach Mike Babcock initiating the first challenge and Jeff Petry's goal being overturned.

The Blues weren't as fortunate when they tried a few days later. Teams are 2-for-5 on coach's challenges through the first week under the new system — 2-for-4 on goalie interference and 0-for-1 on offside plays.

The first impression of challenges, valid only on goals scored with potential goaltender interference or offside plays, is that it'll take plenty of goals off the board and that coaches will be aggressive in using them.

"If we think there's even a 50 per cent chance, we're going to take the risk," Blues coach Ken Hitchcock said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ALCS STARTERS

Volquez faces Estrada in Game 1 of ALCS

The Kansas City Royals are sending Blue Jays antagonist Edinson Volquez to the mound for Game 1 of their AL Championship Series, while Toronto is countering with Marco Estrada.

The opening game is Friday night at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City.

It was Volquez whose inside pitching drew the ire of the Blue Jays in early August, eventually leading to a pair of bench-clearing incidents during their game at Rogers Centre.

After the game, he called Blue Jays star Josh Donaldson "a little baby" for complaining about his pitching.

The Royals will start Yordano Ventura in Game 2 on Saturday. The Blue Jays will put David Price on the mound in Game 2.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Game 3 puts Jays in conflict with election

The federal election is dealing with a late curveball hurled by the red-hot Toronto Blue Jays.

The first pitch in the third game of the Jays' American League showdown against the Kansas City Royals is scheduled for 8 p.m. ET on Monday.

That's 90 minutes before the polls close to end an election campaign that's been almost as enthralling to Canada's political junkies as the Jays post-season run has been to their sports fans.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

5 STORYLINES AT THE ALCS

The Toronto Blue Jays will play the Kansas City Royals in the American League Championship Series starting Friday. Here are five intriguing stories heading into the best-of-seven series:

THE CANADIAN PRESS

George Bell vs. Royals in 1985. THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP/CLIFF SCHIAPPA

1 We've seen this one before

The 2015 ALCS will be a rematch of the 1985 version, which saw Kansas City beat the Blue Jays in seven games. Toronto led the series 3-1 before the Royals clawed back to win the next three games and advance to the World Series, which the Royals ultimately won over St. Louis. Kansas City hasn't been able to win MLB's championship trophy since then, and has only been back to the final once - last season. Toronto hasn't won the World Series since 1993, its last appearance in the final. The Blue Jays had home-field advantage during the 1985 ALCS, with the seventh game played at Exhibition Stadium. Kansas City, which finished the 2015 regular season with the best record in the American League, will have home field this time around.

2 No one wants it more

Before this post-season began, the position player with the most games played without a playoff appearance was Royals outfielder (and former Blue Jay) Alex Rios with 1,691. Toronto's Jose Bautista was second (1,403) while Blue Jays slugger Edwin Encarnacion was third (1,353). All three players, aged 34, 32, and 32 respectively, have waited more than a decade for their chance at post-season ball and none have disappointed so far. Rios is batting .286 with a couple RBIs through five ALDS games for Kansas City, Bautista has hit two homers and driven in five runs with the Jays and Encarnacion has a .333 post-season batting average with three RBIs.

Jose Bautista
FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

3 Bad blood

Tensions ran high in a game at Rogers Centre in August. Royals pitcher Edinson Volquez hit Josh Donaldson with a pitch in the first inning, prompting home plate umpire Jim Wolf to issue warnings to both clubs. Volquez threw a change-up high and in on Donaldson in his next at-bat, then plunked Toronto shortstop Troy Tulowitzki but remained in the game. In the eighth, Toronto reliever Aaron Sanchez was ejected for hitting Kansas City's Alcides Escobar with a pitch. Benches cleared.

4 Is the Price right?

Toronto manager John Gibbons shocked Blue Jays fans when he used Price — his team's prized trade-deadline acquisition — out of the bullpen to relieve R.A. Dickey with a six-run lead in Game 4 of the ALDS. The left-handed ace threw 50 pitches in that game, making him unavailable for the fifth game. Price, the 2012 AL Cy Young winner and one of the front-runners for this year's best pitcher award, hasn't necessarily been able to translate that success into the post-season.

5 Familiar faces

It didn't take Gibbons long to find a new job after he was fired from his first stint as Toronto manager during the 2008 season. He took a job as Kansas City's bench coach that off-season, working with the team until 2011. Gibbons has experience with the Royals core group, including position players Alex Gordon, Eric Hosmer, Jarrod Dyson, Alcides Escobar, Mike Moustakas and Salvador Perez, and pitchers Greg Holland, Luke Hochevar and Danny Duffy.

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RECIPE Apple Chicken Curry

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We call this our beginners curry — not very spicy and really simple to make.

Ready in
Prep time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 cup basmati rice
- 2 chicken breasts, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 onion, sliced
- 2 garlic cloves minced
- 1-2 tsp curry powder or paste
- 1 tsp soy sauce
- 2/3 cup of coconut milk
- 2/3 cup of chicken stock
- 1 large apple, peeled and sliced into thin wedges
- 1 cup of frozen peas
- 1/4 cup of plain yogurt

Directions
1. Prepare rice according to package instructions.
2. Brown the chicken in a bit of vegetable oil in large skillet. Add the onions and cook for about 5 more minutes. Then add the garlic and the curry and cook for another minute.
3. Add the coconut milk, chicken stock and soy and stir together.
4. Add the apple pieces and simmer for 5 minutes. Add the peas and allow them to warm through. Check to see that the chicken has cooked through.
5. Serve the curry over rice and top it with a bit of yogurt.

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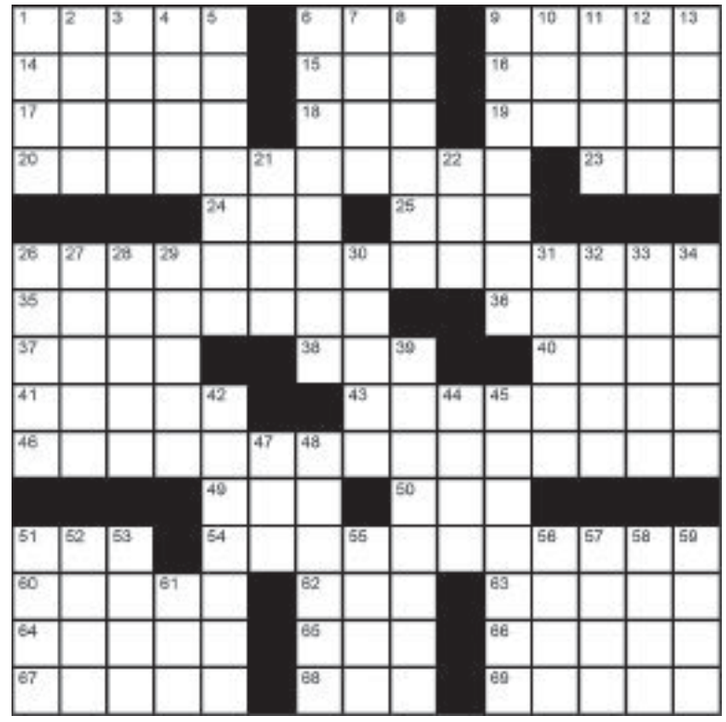
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Actress/singer Ms. Maracle
6. Hosp. readout
9. Fireplace flickerer
14. "Alice" star Linda
15. Expert
16. Mediterranean island
17. Send to the House of Commons
18. 'Jag' add-on (Big spotted cat)
19. Yves Saint Laurent perfume
20. Gigantic red roadside attraction in Elm Creek, Manitoba: 2 wds.
23. He who loved Estella
24. Bemoan
25. French 'law'
26. FIFA 16, the new _ _ _ by EA Sports, features women's national teams for the first time, including Canada
35. "_ MacEvil" by Blood, Sweat & Tears
36. Knobby
37. End in _ _ (Draw)
38. 'E' in HRE, briefly
40. Variant-spelled edge tool
41. Feelings
43. Move in pro wrestling: 2 wds.
46. Anglophones: 2 wds.
49. Boxing stat.
50. Gerard _ Borch (Dutch painter)
51. Notable time
54. News, interviews, indie band airplay... Student-run operation: 2 wds.
60. Enthusiasm
62. Jon Jovi link
63. Advertising suffix
64. Sparkle
65. Egg mass
66. Be victorious in: 2 wds.
67. Skirt's stitched spots
68. Hmmms...
69. Hayes and Connery

DOWN
1. Music notation
2. Nova Scotia's cap.
3. At all
4. Particular pudding
5. _ _ days (From Friday, when it'll be Monday)
6. This brandy's French name means 'water of life': 3 wds.
7. "If I Had $1,000,000" vehicle
8. President Ford
9. Carly Rae Jepsen's latest album
10. Chart
11. Radar signal
12. Ornamental case
13. Highway exit
21. Portable dwelling of Mongolia
22. San Francisco's _ Valley
26. Pool table surface
27. Go _ _ a limb
28. Including others in on the memo
29. Fish-holding basket
30. Poetic feet
31. "_ _ Alice..." - Jefferson Airplane, "White Rabbit"
32. Befuddle
33. Madonna's actress friend Debi
34. For short in Science.. Na, Ne and Ni
39. Fare featured on #9-Down: 2 wds.
42. Funny television shows
44. Kiki and Sandra
45. Surnamesakes of Peter of Peter, Paul & Mary
47. Music style
48. Madrid 'man'
51. Frittata ingredients
52. Lindsay Lohan movie, "Georgia _" (2007)
53. On the Atlantic
55. Ricky Nelson's "_ Little Fool"
56. Movie director Mr. Posin
57. Mr. Carvey
58. David Bowie's wife
59. Quaker _ Company
61. Highlands hat

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You may suspect that someone is taking advantage of your easygoing nature but don't make a fuss about it. There is no percentage in getting angry with people who take a little bit for themselves at your expense. You can afford to be generous.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
There is an air of anticipation, as if something dramatic will happen. If you keep your head you will benefit from whatever changes take place.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You might like to change the world but all you can really do is change yourself. Act only from the highest of principles today and set an example for others.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
What seemed like a setback yesterday will be seen in a much more positive light today. Your attitude toward success will change. There is no reason at all to be embarrassed if you find fame and fortune.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Your thoughts may be far away but you won't be allowed to neglect your duties for long. Employers will let you know in no uncertain terms if they think you are not pulling your weight.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Your power to influence events is limited but why should that be a bad thing? Do you really need to change things that much? Maybe it is your perspective that is wrong.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you want something enough you will no doubt find a way to get it, but you will get it quicker and easier if you start thinking in terms of cooperation rather than conflict. There is only so much you can accomplish on your own.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The people you are closest too are feeling a bit neglected. Remind them what they mean to you. But don't give up on the hard work.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Whatever you do over the next few days will be a success. It will be even more of a success if you don't worry too much about how much it is likely to cost you. Money is not an issue.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Keep your plans to yourself today. If you let slip even a hint of what you are up to those who wish you ill will find ways to make things tough.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Any doubts you had about what you should be doing with your life will disappear over the weekend. Remember: you are who you are for a reason. Listen to your inner voice. Let it guide you.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
The odds are in your favour so make things easy for yourself by swimming with the tide rather than fighting against it. If someone wants to do things for you today all you have to do is let them.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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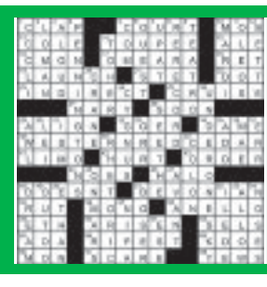

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Shop online at **birchwood.ca** for the best price on a wide selection of tires. Need help? Our unique buying tool will show you the best options for your vehicle, and your budget.

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Book your appointment online. Relax and let our expert technicians install your tires at one of our 11 convenient locations. Expert installation guarantees your safety, and tire performance.

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Buy a set of four winter tires before November 1st and get a season of **free tire storage**.

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